

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

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JAPAN

Nakasone Hints at Meeting on Exchange Rates	C 1
Reaction to Sales Tax, Defense Spending Plan	C 1
Nakasone Defends Move	C 1
LDP Members Against Tax	C 2
Protest Rally Held	C 3
International Antinuclear Symposium Held	C 3
Hiroshima Sit-In Demands U.S. Stop Nuclear Test	C 4
SDI Participation To Follow FRG Formula	C 4
Talks on U.S. Legal Practices End in Deadlock	C 4
Third Country Sought for 11 North Koreans	C 5

NORTH KOREA

NODONG SINMUN Urges South Response to Talks Call [1 Feb]	D 1
NODONG SINMUN Calls for Stopping 'Team Spirit' [30 Jan]	D 2
Soviets Condemn Exercise	D 3
MINJU CHOSON Reports 7th Fleet 'Confab' in South [30 Jan]	D 3
U.S.-Japan 'Yamazakura-11' CPX Criticized	D 4
Reagan's Foreign Policy Difficulties Outlined [NODONG SINMUN 1 Feb]	D 5
KIM Pok-sin, Delegation Meet USSR's Ryzhkov	D 7
Countries Support DPRK's Olympic Cohosting	D 7
NODONG SINMUN on South's Foreign Policy for 1987 [23 Jan]	D 8
VNS Talk on Character of Anti-U.S. Movement	D 9

SOUTH KOREA

Rally Over Student's Death Causes Concern	E 1
DJP To Take 'Firm Steps'	E 1
NKDP Ignores Warnings	E 1
Government 'Weighing Options' [THE KOREA HERALD 1 Feb]	E 2
Japan, Taiwan Discuss Options for DPRK Defectors	E 4

MONGOLIA

Memorandum on Relations Signed With U.S.	F 1
Foreign Minister in USSR for 'Working Visit'	F 1
Begins Visit 29 Jan	F 1
Feted by Shevardnadze	F 1
Media, Public Praise Gorbachev Plenum Report	F 3
MONTSAME Commentator Hails Gorbachev Report	F 4
Youth Paper Lauds Kabul's Reconciliation Line	F 4

CAMBODIA

Koy Buntha Greets SRV Troops on New Year	H 1
Defense Ministry Group Greets SRV Soldiers	H 2
Radio-TV Protocol Signed With USSR 28 Jan	H 2
Reportage on Visit of GDR Economic Delegation	H 3
Received by Hun Sen	H 3
Cooperation Protocols Signed	H 4
Polish Party Economic Delegation Arrives 29 Jan	H 4
Meets With Chan Phin	H 5
AFP: Resistance Kills 28 SRV Soldiers 28 Jan	H 5
266 'Misled' Persons Return to Battambang in 1986	H 5

LAOS

LPRP Central Committee Plenum Held 26-31 Jan	I 1
Kaysone Addresses Plenum	I 2
SPC Plenary Session for 1987 Held 2 Feb	I 4
SRV Ambassador Hosts New Year Reception	I 6
PASASON Hails DPRK's Kim Il-song Peace Proposal	I 6
Party Delegation Returns From Poland 27 Jan	I 7

THAILAND

Foreign Ministry on SRV Border Provocations	J 1
Army Chief on Border Visit, SRV Intruders	J 1
[THE NATION 31 Jan]	
Envoy to SRV on 'Obstacles' in Fishermen Case	J 2
Official Spokesman on Countertrade With SRV	J 3
[THE NATION 31 Jan]	
Lao Envoy Says SRV Troops No Threat to Thailand	J 4
[BANGKOK POST 31 Jan]	
Official Rejects Khun Sa's Opium Output Claim	J 4
[BANGKOK POST 29 Jan]	
Briefs: Ambassador to Maldives; Chat Thai Party Leaders; Cambodian Refugee Figures; Trade With PRC	J 5

VIETNAM

NHAN DAN Comments on State of Union Speech [1 Feb]	K 1
Do Muoi Decorated by Soviet Charge d'Affaires	K 1
Mai Chi Tho Pays Tet Visit to Duty Security Unit	K 1
Envoy to PRK Visit Volunteers in Phnom Penh	K 2
VNA Reviews Growth of Cambodian Armor Battalion	K 2
Hanoi Views Cooperation With Laos, Cambodia	K 3
Education Minister Attends Australia Day Fete	K 6
Peace Committee President Receives WPC Medal	K 6

INDONESIA

Mokhtar Returns From ASEAN-Japan Meeting	N 1
Finance Minister on Foreign Debt Repayment	N 1
Vice President, Delegation Return From Kuwait	N 1

MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE

MALAYSIA

Mahathir Terms Talks With Gandhi 'Success'
 Mahathir on Islamic Conference Summit in Kuwait
 Deputy Premier on 'Changing' Communist Struggle
 [BERITA HARIAN 21 Jan]

O 1
 O 1
 O 2

PHILIPPINES

Draft Constitution Plebiscite Held 2 Feb	P 1
'Heavy' Voter Turnout Reported [AFP]	P 1
9 Killed During Mindanao Voting [AFP]	P 2
Initial Results From Quezon City	P 2
Metro Manila Favors Charter [KYODO]	P 3
Yes Votes Leading in Paranaque	P 4
District 4 Results Reported	P 4
Namfrel Reports Unofficial Results [AFP]	P 4
Makati, Other Results	P 5
Laurel Confident of Charter Ratification	P 5
Ramos Criticizes Voting Restrictions on Troops	P 6
[AFP]	
Aquino Addresses Pre-Plebiscite Rally 31 Jan	P 7
Rebel Troops Surrounded in Manila Suburb [AFP]	P 8
Further on Rebels [AFP]	P 8
Pursuit Continues [AFP]	P 9
Search Called Off [AFP]	P 10
Police Seize Cache of Explosives in Manila	P 10
3 Bombs Explode in Manila, No Injuries Reported	P 10
[AFP]	
DZEC Radio Broadcasts Taped Marcos Message [AFP]	P 11
U.S. 'Mercenaries' Involved in Coup Plot	P 12
[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 31 Jan]	
Ramos Denies NDF Charge on Links to Coup Plot	P 14
[AFP]	
Mendiola Victims Buried; KMP Lists Demands	P 15
Official Says Japanese Businessman Still Alive	P 15
[KYODO]	

NAKASONE HINTS AT MEETING ON EXCHANGE RATES

OW021057 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone hinted Monday that the so-called Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrial democracies will meet soon to discuss ways of stabilizing exchange rates. Analysts said such a meeting would probably follow the expected session in late February or early March of the Group of Five (G-5), which comprises Japan, the United States, Britain, France and West Germany. The G-7 includes Canada [words indistinct] the other other five.

Nakasone, responding to a charge in the Diet by Japan Socialist Party Chairwoman Takako Doi that his government was responsible for the rapid appreciation of the yen, said Japan would hold talks with various countries aimed at stabilizing exchange rates. He added, we are also paying attention to the holding of an early meeting of the G-7.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa also defended the government economic policies against opposition criticism, saying discussions on currency stabilization are currently under way with the countries concerned.

The G-5 meeting was originally expected to be held in Paris on February 7.

REACTION TO SALES TAX, DEFENSE SPENDING PLAN

Nakasone Defends Move

OW020757 Tokyo KYODO in English 0637 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, countering an opposition attack in the Diet Monday, insisted that a new tax reform plan will be "fair" and a revised defense spending policy will act as a major brake on military outlays. Nakasone, meeting opposition demands to define a sales tax program slated to go into effect next January, confirmed for the first time that such sales taxes will be included in the indirect tax reform package.

In reply to questions posed by Takako Doi, leader of the main opposition Japan Socialist Party (JSP), the prime minister brushed aside allegations that his government was intent on regaining military strength through the introduction of wide-scale indirect taxes and increased defense spending. He insisted that the current 18.4-trillion-yen defense buildup plan (1986-90) will control military outlays, which have been limited to less than 1 percent of GNP in annual budget plans for the past 10 years.

Nakasone also said that the proposed tax system will benefit the average wage earner through income tax reductions, adding that sales taxes will not be applied to such vital sectors as medicine and education.

JSP head Doi started off the three-day interpellation with a strong-worded attack against the prime minister, who she described as a "frightening man."

Doi, who last Wednesday refused to begin the question session until Nakasone agreed to deliver a supplementary speech on the sales tax plan, charged that the prime minister broke his election promise not to introduce wide-scale indirect taxes and to preserve the interest-free small savings account (maruyu) system, contrary to the contents of the new tax reform plan announced last December.

She also slammed the Nakasone government as an incapable body, charging it with responsibility for the yen's rapid rise and the resulting unemployment.

Amid loud applause from the opposition camp, the JSP leader called for a major revision of the 1987 fiscal budget proposal, which was approved by the cabinet December 30 and will be subject to Diet debate in the current session to be held until May 27. In an indication that the opposition camp was preparing to wage a battle over the budget proposal, Doi pointed out that Japan was in need of a budget which would encourage 4 to 5 percent growth in domestic demand, a requirement that the current proposal would not fulfill.

The five-day deadlock in Diet proceedings ended with a victory for the opposition camp which staged an unusual show of unity against the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP). Nakasone prompted the showdown with the JSP, Komeito and Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) when he initially refused to supplement his policy speech, addressed to the Diet when it resumed January 26 after a New Year recess.

The three top opposition parties, which control only 173 seats in the important Lower House compared to the 304 held by the LDP, have threatened to walk out of all Diet sessions unless the government compromises over controversial issues.

In addition to Doi, LDP Policy Board Chairman Masayoshi Ito and Komeito leader Junya Yano took to the floor of the Lower House Monday. Ito maintained that the ruling party will adhere to the "spirit" of the 1986 cabinet decision to limit defense spending to the 1-percent-of-GNP ceiling. Komeito Chairman Yano joined Doi to blast the Nakasone government on the two factors which will dominate Diet deliberations in the months ahead -- tax system reform and abolishment of the defense spending ceiling.

LDP Members Against Tax

OW020015 Tokyo KYODO in English 0003 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO -- Only 57 percent of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party's Diet members support the introduction of a planned sales tax and about a half of them say their constituents are against the tax, according to a survey by KYODO NEWS SERVICE published Monday. The survey showed there is strong dissatisfaction over the introduction of the sales tax within the LDP, even though LDP Diet members are required by party rules to abide by official policy in replying to any surveys.

The survey was conducted between January 26-29 among the 447 Diet members of the LDP, and 176 of them responded. It showed that the government's plan to introduce a value-added type sales tax, expected to be 5 percent, was supported by only 101 (57.4 percent) of the Diet members responding, while 21 (11.9 percent) opposed the tax, and 54 (30.7 percent) wanted the plan revised or felt the government should make efforts to gain the public's "understanding" of the tax, the report said.

Asked about the views of supporters in their constituencies, 86 of the Diet members (48.9 percent) said they met strong opposition, and 56 (31.8 percent) said supporters accepted it as inevitable, it said.

Twenty-four of the Diet members (13.6 percent) said the tax plan has not been fully understood due to lack of public relations or that it has caused anxiety and worries. None of the Diet members surveyed claimed there was strong support for the tax, the report said.

Asked whether the introduction of the sales tax violates Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's promise in last July's Diet election campaign not to introduce a large-scale indirect tax, 80 of the Diet members (45.4 percent) said Nakasone did not break his pledge, while 41 (23.3 percent) said it was against the promise, and 55 (31.3 percent) were noncommittal.

On the planned abolition of the "maruyu" system, which exempts interest on small savings from tax, 112 (63.7 percent) were in favor and 21 (11.9 percent) against, it said.

A tax system reform bill providing for the introduction of the sales tax will be submitted to the current Diet session which reconvened January 26.

Protest Rally Held

OW010420 Tokyo KYODO in English 0414 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO -- Some 8,000 workers, retailers and consumer organization officials held an outdoor protest rally Sunday and vowed to block the introduction of a proposed sales tax. Takeshi Kurokawa, chairman of the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (Sohyo), said "the people must express their anger" at the value-added type tax planned to be implemented by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's cabinet.

Speaking on behalf of the organizers of the gathering, Kurokawa said "the ring of struggle" against the tax must be expanded to the retailers, and joint actions, including a strike, should be launched at a critical phase of Diet deliberations. He urged the participants assembled at Tokyo's Hibiya Park Sunday morning to remain united until the proposed tax legislation is crushed.

Leaders of four opposition parties also spoke at the rally, saying they will maintain unity among themselves in their fight against the sales tax.

The protestors then made a demonstration down the streets of Tokyo's Ginza area.

INTERNATIONAL ANTINUCLEAR SYMPOSIUM HELD

OW011113 Tokyo KYODO in English 1056 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO -- Some 200 people called for the demilitarization of the Asia-Pacific region in an international antinuclear symposium held here Sunday. The symposium, whose name was "the human network extends far beyond that of the Pacific Ocean" was organized by six antinuclear and peace groups in Japan, including some Christian groups. It was attended by nine delegates from peace groups in the United States, the Philippines, New Zealand, Australia and Canada. Each reported their activities for nuclear disarmament and antimilitarization in their respective countries following a Japanese antinuke animation film entitled "The 100th Ape." They then held an open discussion with the audience on such topics as the disposition of the U.S.'s Tomahawk nuclear cruise missile.

The Japanese Government was also criticised in the discussions for strengthening its power in the Asia-Pacific region.

HIROSHIMA SIT-IN DEMANDS U.S. STOP NUCLEAR TEST

OW021111 Tokyo KYODO in English 0936 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Hiroshima, Feb. 2 KYODO -- Some 60 people, including survivors of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, began a sit-in in drizzling rain at the Peace Park here Monday in protest at a planned nuclear test by the U.S. They said they feared the test, scheduled for Thursday, would cause the Soviet Union to resume its own nuclear tests.

Akira Ishida, one of the demonstration's organizers, said, "If the Soviets breach their ban on nuclear test, the world will again be plunged into a nuclear arms race."

SDI PARTICIPATION TO FOLLOW FRG FORMULA

OW311059 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT Jan 87

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 31 KYODO -- The government will participate in the research and development phases of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative under formulas similar to those concluded by West Germany, Italy, Israel and Britain, officials said Saturday. It has also decided that agreements on participation in the project will be concluded individually between Japanese enterprises and the U.S. Government.

In these agreements, the decision will be left to the U.S. Administration on the ownership and transfer of technology developed by Japanese companies, they said. The government will try, however, to help Japanese firms retain the copyright and right to use technology they have developed. This would make it possible for Japanese companies to use their technology for civilian purposes, the officials said. The agreement signed by the United States and West Germany excluded such a possibility, they said.

In this connection, the officials said, the government has no plan to formulate new domestic laws regulating the participation of Japanese companies in the SDI project.

The Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) urged the government to reserve the right for Japanese enterprises to use new technology they develop.

The government plans to conclude a formal agreement with the United States toward April.

TALKS ON U.S. LEGAL PRACTICES END IN DEADLOCK

OW310635 Tokyo KYODO in English 0627 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 31 KYODO -- Japanese and U.S. trade negotiators Saturday ended their working-level talks without agreement regarding a U.S. request to ease restrictions on U.S. attorneys working in Japan so they may practice under Japanese laws more freely. The negotiators agreed to resume talks on the issue in Washington in February prior to the planned enforcement from April 1 of a new Japanese law governing business of foreign lawyers here, Japanese officials said.

The U.S. side urged Japan to ease regulations calling for U.S. attorneys to practice only U.S. Federal laws and their home state laws unless they have permission to practice under Japanese laws from the Japanese justice minister, the officials said.

The Japanese side expressed intention to "make every effort to comply with the U.S. request within the permissible limit of Japanese law" without revising the new law. The law passed the Diet (parliament) last year.

The U.S. side also took issue with the new law's provisions which would prohibit non-Japanese lawyers from employing Japanese lawyers and would authorize only foreign lawyers with five years' prior experience outside Japan to practice under Japanese laws here.

THIRD COUNTRY SOUGHT FOR 11 NORTH KOREANS

OW011019 Tokyo KYODO in English 1002 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Fukui, Feb. 1 KYODO -- Japanese Government officials said here Sunday that they are still seeking a third country that might accept 11 Koreans who drifted into a western Japanese port on a disabled ship January 20. The Koreans, including four teenagers, said they were from North Korea and at first reportedly told Japanese authorities they wanted to defect to a "warm country." But it has not yet been disclosed why and how they left security-tight North Korea.

While the Koreans were immediately brought here to be placed under Japanese protective custody, North Korea, which has no diplomatic ties with Japan, demanded that the Koreans be returned to North Korea.

South Korea claimed that their nation was the "warm country" the 11 people said they wanted to go to and unofficially proposed they be handed over to South Korea. But Seoul later withdrew the proposal.

The Japanese authorities said the Koreans had left their home on January 15. They apparently did not disclose their intended destination but said their ship, the "J-dan 9082" registered at the North Korean port of Chongjin, was disabled due to engine trouble. The Koreans are aboard the repaired ship, which is moored off Tsuruga port, because they have been denied entry to Japan since they lack passports and other necessary papers.

Both Seoul- and Pyongyang-oriented Korean residents' groups in Japan have sent their members to Tsuruga to monitor the Japanese Government's handling of the case. According to members of the pro-South Korean group, Mindan, who are residing at a hotel close to Tsuruga port, the South Korean Government said it withdrew its proposal to accept the defectors because it had reached an agreement with the Japanese Government that the 11 persons would be sent to South Korea via a third country. Members of the pro-North Korean group, Soren, said they are keeping an eye on developments "24 hours a day."

NODONG SINMUN URGES SOUTH RESPONSE TO TALKS CALL

SK010520 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2152 GMT 31 Jan 87

[NODONG SINMUN 1 February commentary: "The South Side Must Sincerely Respond"]

[Text] The second letter sent by the DPRK premier and minister of the People's Armed Forces containing the proposal to hold high-level North-South political and military talks was delivered to the South side on 30 January in Panmunjom.

Expressing regret that the talks have not been held because the South side has not responded to our first letter containing the proposal to hold the first talks on 27 January as well as discussing matters of the place, makeup of the delegates, and subjects for discussion at the high-level North-South political and military talks, the letter demanded that the South side decide on a date for holding high-level North-South political and military talks after studying our proposal for another 20 days.

This is another revelation of our sincere effort to alleviate political and military confrontation between the North and the South, to create an atmosphere favorable for national reconciliation and unity, and to open a breakthrough for peaceful reunification by successfully holding high-level North-South political and military talks at all costs.

Holding high-level North-South political and military talks and alleviating political and military confrontation are an acute and urgent problem to be solved in our country. Only when this problem is solved, can distrust and confrontation among fellow countrymen be removed, faith and unity realized, the danger of war prevented, peace guaranteed, and a broad road toward the fatherland's reunification, which is the long cherished desire of the nation, be developed through dialogue and negotiation.

If the high-level North-South political and military talks go well, existing dialogues between the North and the South can be resumed in an atmosphere of reconciliation and unity and the problems of holding the highest-level talks will naturally be resolved.

However, turning away from our realistic and rational proposal, the South Korean ruling rascals have assumed a [word indistinct] attitude by repeatedly and thoughtlessly babbling about resuming the existing dialogues and holding highest-level talks, which are not realistic. Furthermore, even on the day of receiving our letter, they made an absurd remark that if the highest-level talks are held, our proposal for high-level North-South political and military talks can be discussed.

All the gibberish of the South Korean ruling rascals are perverted and absurd remarks designed from the start to avoid and distort the reality of our country.

Our intention to hold high-level North-South political and military talks is designed to settle the aggravated current situation, in which neither the existing dialogues cannot be realistically resumed because of North-South political and military confrontation nor in which the highest-level talks cannot be held, and is designed to resume the existing dialogues and successfully hold the highest-level talks by creating an atmosphere favorable for detente, peace, and dialogue.

The South Korean ruling rascals' assertion for immediately doing the impossible without paying attention to this fact and their unwillingness to do that which should be done immediately is nonsensical. More ver, their demand for holding the highest-level talks and discussing the matter of holding high-level political and military talks at the above talks is not a reasonable act.

The demand of discussing high-level political and military talks at the highest-level talks is tantamount to turning matters upside down. This demand is nothing but an excuse and pretense of those who have nothing to say and who are trying to find a way out of trouble.

Therefore, we made it clear immediately after the so-called state policy speech that repeated babbling about resuming existing dialogues and holding the highest-level talks is not a response to our new proposal. At the same time, we have repeatedly stated that if high-level North-South political and military talks are realized and a remarkable fruit is borne from these talks, the proposals advanced by the South Korean ruling rascals can be successfully dealt with.

The South Korean ruling rascals must no longer waste precious time by gibbering about resuming the existing dialogues and holding the highest-level talks nor commit the act of mocking the nation with an outworn package.

Moreover, when we proposed high-level North-South political and military talks the South Korean authorities announced that they would conduct the provocative "Team Spirit-87" joint military exercise with the U.S. imperialists against our republic by mobilizing more than 200,000 troops. This announcement is a challenge to our peace proposal and a revelation that their gibberish about resuming the existing dialogues and holding highest-level talks is nonsense.

In the letter, we gave the South time to study our proposal out of a desire to hold high-level North-South political and military talks as soon as possible. Now that the South side has received our letter, it must give a sincere response to it, a response which the nation can understand and with which the world can sympathize.

NODONG SINMUN CALLS FOR STOPPING 'TEAM SPIRIT'

SK301052 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA) -- The South Korean authorities announced that they would hold a large-scale provocative war rehearsal against the other party to the talks at a time when peace talks proposed by us are put on the order of the day. This is a challenge to our peaceloving efforts and clear proof that they desire neither detente and peace, nor national harmony and unity, nor dialogue and negotiation, nor peaceful reunification.

NODONG SINMUN today says this in a signed article titled "Give Up Military Exercises and Respond to Peace Talks".

Noting that having announced the plan to hold the "Team Spirit 87" joint military exercises, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are these days following the road of openly heightening the tension, very insolently approaching our peace proposal for North-South high-level political and military talks, the article says:

The military exercises are incompatible with peace and dialogue.

Although the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, the Chon Tu-kwan group, are now advertising that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises are "usual exercises" and "defensive exercises" as if they were no obstacle to peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification, this is nothing but a poor excuse of the warmaniacs.

The "Team Spirit" joint military exercises in which large armed forces more than 200,000 strong and modern equipment of destruction enough to prosecute a whole war will be mobilized are out-and-out offensive operation exercises and virtually a "preliminary war" and "test nuclear war" simulating a "surprise attack on our republic.

The "Team Spirit 87" joint military exercises are bringing not a spring breeze of peace but fiery clouds of war. The aggressive nature of the "Team Spirit" military exercises can never be veiled with such words as "defensive" and "usual".

The act of the puppets who turn a deaf ear to the patriotic appeal of the fellow countrymen and endanger the interests and security of the nation, following the war policy of outside forces of aggression, is an intolerable criminal one against the nation.

If the South Korean rulers truly desire detente and peace, dialogue and negotiation and peaceful reunification, they must not make empty talk about the "resumption of the past dialogues" and "talks between the supreme chiefs" but take the road of substantially solving the matter.

Soviets Condemn Exercise

SK311031 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA) -- TASS reports that the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, at a press conference on January 29, stated to the following effect:

The "Team Spirit 87" joint military exercises of the United States and South Korea are the biggest demonstration of armed forces directly near the Soviet Union and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in peace time.

The Soviet Union denounces this provocative act of the U.S. forces and the South Korean puppet Army in the South of the Korean peninsula and considers that it is a move to heighten the international tensions in that region and wreck the possibility of dialogue between the North and the South of Korea.

MINJU CHOSON REPORTS 7TH FLEET 'CONFAB' IN SOUTH

SK301116 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1107 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA) -- The commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet on January 27 flew into South Korea to be closeted with the puppet defence minister over "military affairs of common concern." Branding this as a secret confab for a play with fire, MINJU CHOSON in a signed commentary today says:

The U.S. imperialists intend to occupy the whole of Korea by igniting a war of aggression and, furthermore, attack other countries of Asia with South Korea as the stronghold and the Chon Tu-hwan group seeks to gratify its desire for long-term office under the patronage of its master by following his policy of war.

For such heinous aim the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have already worked out an "offensive strategy" based on "forestalling attack" or "forestalling strike" and are working round the clock to carry it into practice.

The puppet defence minister had this "offensive strategy" in mind when he begged his master to make active efforts for the attainment of a "common target".

Hence, it is as clear as noonday that the commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet and the puppet defence minister must have discussed questions of aggravating the situation on the Korea peninsula and leading it to the brink of war.

This is made all the clearer by the fact that they discussed "military affairs of common concern" with the provocative "Team Spirit 87" joint military exercises ahead.

All the facts clearly show that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets seek confrontation and war in actuality, for all their talk about "peace" and "dialogue", says the daily.

U.S.-JAPAN 'YAMAZAKURA-11' CPX CRITICIZED

SK230418 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Unattributed talk: "Along the U.S. Imperialists' Orbit of War"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the Japanese reactionaries, who are zealous about making preparations for an aggressive war, have lifted the first curtain of joint military exercises this year. According to a news report, Japan's Self-defense Forces [SDF] and U.S. forces are conducting a joint command post exercise [CPX] called "Yamazakura-11" in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture in the northeast region of Japan, starting on 18 January.

This command and staff exercise, which will continue until 30 January, is designed to mobilize U.S. and Japanese combat forces. The United States has deployed the largest number of troops this year in the joint CPX called "Yamazakura," which was launched in 1982.

The current exercise is a dangerous sign that Japan has become deeply entangled in the U.S. imperialists' implementation of world strategy and that the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries have further accelerated the completion of joint actions for an aggressive war. With a reckless and wild desire to conquer the world with strength, the U.S. imperialists are trying to comprehensively mobilize and use the armed forces of the Japanese militarists for a new aggressive war against our republic and other socialist countries in Asia.

By sharing and implementing the important portion of the U.S. imperialists' policy of war, the Japanese reactionaries are trying to open a way toward military expansion overseas. In order to implement such a military plot, the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese reactionaries recently held a working-level U.S.-Japan security meeting in Honolulu and agreed on coordinating the aggressive military systems of two countries on the pretext of defense cooperation; on further centralizing tactical operations, intelligence, communication, logistic support, and equipment; and on staging joint military exercises on a full-fledged scale. This shows that Japan has become much more tightly bound to the U.S. war wheel and that a system of joint tactical operations has been established to move along the orbit of war.

The current U.S.-Japan joint CPX is the first exercise designed to put into practice agreements reached at the Honolulu meeting. The current joint military exercise of the U.S. and Japanese armies is being staged with support by U.S. and Japanese Navy and Air Force units. Also participating in this military exercise are U.S. Marine units, which specialize in amphibious operations against other countries.

In the past, Japan's Ground SDF staged joint exercises only with the U.S. Army. However, last year it conducted a joint CPX last year with U.S. Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps units. This year it plans to conduct ski training under the guidance of ski instructors from a U.S. special task force. This shows that Japan's SDF will participate in amphibious operations against other countries with U.S. forces as well as in marine and aerial tactical operations and that the SDF is ready to take the lead in overseas military aggression operations as a shock brigade.

Above all the brunt of U.S.-Japan joint aggressive tactical operations is directed at Korea. Participating in the current joint U.S.-Japan CPX are staff members of U.S. combat forces, which have annually participated in "Team Spirit" war exercises as main contingents, including the U.S. imperialist (9th Corps) and the U.S. imperialist 25th Infantry Division from Hawaii. This shows that the U.S. imperialists chiefly aim at helping Japan's SDF acquire the experience of the "Team Spirit" military exercise and at increasing the capability of Japanese combat forces for active service.

The current joint military exercise is an overture for implementing an aggressive tripartite military alliance of the United States, Japan, and South Korea.

War preparations made by the U.S. and Japanese aggressive forces greatly threaten the independence and security of Asian countries and peace in this region. We should prevent the U.S. and Japanese wheel of war from once again turning Asia into ruins. The people of Asia and the world are increasingly vigilant against the war maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese reactionaries.

REAGAN'S FOREIGN POLICY DIFFICULTIES OUTLINED

SK010902 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0846 GMT 1 Feb 87

["More Difficulties to Reagan" -- KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 1 (KCNA) -- The United States is going to follow the road of war and aggression, resorting to the "policy of strength," this year, too, says NODONG SINMUN today. In a signed article headlined "Where Is the United States Led?", the paper goes on:

Policies and plans of Reagan in the third year of his second presidential term are going busted.

Reagan is now feeling ill at ease. It is because Reagan's policies and plans filled with many commitments have gone bankrupt.

The United States has been reduced to a biggest debtor in the world.

The bankruptcy of Reagan's economic policy is an inevitable outcome of the drastic increase of military budget and the submission of all things in the country to preparations for aggression and war.

Since he became a president, Reagan has increased military expenditure, stepped up the development of nuclear weapons and addressed himself to intensifying the policy of aggression and war. The "Star Wars" programme is a new stage of nuclear war preparations propelled by Reagan.

Reagan took it as a major task this year to press ahead with the "Star Wars" programme.

This is a clear expression of Reagan's "policy of strength."

The U.S. ruling quarters are desperately attempting to find the way out of the ever worsening internal and external crisis of the United States in the aggravation of international tensions and the provocation of a new war.

A clear proof of this is the U.S. policy towards Nicaragua.

In his state of the union message, Reagan said that such a revolutionary country as Nicaragua should not be allowed to exist in Central America. This insinuates that the United States may directly interfere in Nicaragua with arms, actively supporting the "contras" bandits this year.

By demanding the increase of Japanese military expenditure again in this year's "strategy of security", the U.S. reactionary ruling quarters revealed their design to hastily wind up the formation of the United States-Japan-South Korea triangular military alliance and intensify, with it as a lever, the policy of aggression and war in the northeast Asian region.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are going to stage the large scale "Team Spirit" military exercises in South Korea this year again. This eloquently proves that the U.S. policy of aggression and war on the Korean peninsula has been undisguised and intensified as never before.

All facts show that the U.S. imperialists are a mastermind of disturbing world peace and security and international situation will be further strained this year.

The "policy of strength" of the United States has long been sentenced to failure. The U.S. Administration is falling into a more difficult plight inside and outside.

More difficulties are awaiting for Reagan in a rattle chariot of war.

KIM POK-SIN, DELEGATION MEET USSR'S RYZHKOV

SK010816 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0807 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Pyongyang February 1 (KCNA) -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, on January 30 met Vice-Premier Kim Pok-sin, head of the Korean Government economic delegation on a visit to the Soviet Union, according to a report.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the successful development of the Korean-Soviet relations on the basis of the Korean-Soviet Treaty of friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance and in the spirit of an agreement reached at talks between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, in October, 1986.

Ryzhkov stressed that the Soviet Union would strengthen the friendship with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in an allround way and activate many-sided relations with her.

It was noted on the occasion that the expansion and deepening of reciprocal bilateral relations on the basis of equality would make a greater contribution to the cause of socialist construction in the two countries.

The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

COUNTRIES SUPPORT DPRK'S OLYMPIC COHOSTING

SK021005 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0957 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA) -- The DPRK's Olympic cohosting proposal was supported at a conference of executives of international divisions of sports organizations of socialist countries which was held in Havana, according to a report.

The delegates of Cuba, the Soviet Union, Mongolia, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Viet Nam, etc. in their speeches expressed full support to the proposal for the cohosting of the 1988 Olympic Games by the North and South of Korea.

NODONG SINMUN ON SOUTH'S FOREIGN POLICY FOR 1987

SK230617 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2154 GMT 22 Jan 87

[NODONG SINMUN 23 January commentary: "The Ridiculous All-Out Effort for Diplomacy by the Colonial Stooge"]

[Text] In a so-called major policy report at Chongwadae on 19 January, Choe Kwang-su, the South Korean puppet foreign minister, disclosed the direction of foreign policy for this year. The puppet raved that an all-out effort will be made to strengthen the foundation of security, trade, and reunification diplomacy, and to expand the diplomatic foundation for a successful hosting of the 1988 Olympics, while maintaining the basis of their foreign policy this year in blocking our political and military activities.

Puppet traitor Chon Tu-hwan, in receiving this report, also made similar outbursts, saying that the complicated surrounding situation and security situation should be accurately grasped and should be coped with positively.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring's so-called direction of foreign policy shows well that the puppets are resorting to dependence on foreign forces, nation-selling, and treachery and are following the road to perpetual division rather than reunification in order to sustain the crumbling military fascist rule with the backing of the U.S. imperialists.

The puppets said that they will deepen the relations of alliance with the United States and the relations of cooperation with Japan to solidify the system of security diplomacy and that, ridiculously, they will make steady diplomatic efforts to check our building of the Kumgangsan Power Plant. Needless to say, this means that they will dash toward the road of political and military confrontation and war against us by perpetuating the U.S. forces' occupation of South Korea and intensifying the criminal collusion with Japan.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring said that they will strengthen the foundation of reunification diplomacy by obtaining support from the United Nations and other international organizations, while making efforts for cross-recognition and admission into the United Nations, and by creating international opinion for the resumption of dialogue. This is a tactic aimed at checking the influence of our Republic which is increasing in the international community with each passing day, to find a way out of their international isolation, and to legitimize the fabrication of two Koreas for perpetual division.

The puppets said that they will realize cooperation with the Third World countries and strengthen diplomatic support for the successful hosting of the 1988 Olympics. This, after all, is designed to create an advantageous international environment for the two Koreas plot.

What should not be overlooked here is that the puppets rave about the creation of international opinion for the so-called resumption of dialogue and cooperation with the Third World countries. It is a stern reality known to the whole world that the Chon Tu-hwan ring, while babbling about the resumption of dialogue, is actually accelerating the anticommunist fascistization and the preparations for a war of northward invasion, continuously pursuing the intensification of the political and military confrontation with us.

It is hypocrisy and intolerable mockery to all the fellow countrymen and the world's peace-loving people that they should rave about the resumption of dialogue while intentionally avoiding accepting our proposal for the high-level North-South political and military talks to bring an end to the acute political and military confrontation between the North and the South and to open a way to alleviation and dialogue and saying that they will push ahead with the diplomatic efforts to stop our building of the peaceful Kumgangsan Power Plant. Furthermore, there is a wicked plot in the raving about cooperation with the Third World countries by the puppets who, as a filthy cat's paw for the U.S. imperialists, have played a role of hampering the cause of national independence of the people of the newly emerging countries.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring is a filthy colonial stooge and the garbage of the times which is attempting to find a way to survival by faithfully implementing the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war against the Korean people and the world's peace-loving people, running counter to the powerful trend of the our times vigorously advancing along the road of anti-imperialist struggle for independence and antiwar struggle for peace.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring is thoroughly isolated and rejected not only by the South Korean people but also by the world's progressive people highly valuing justice and peace because it has committed itself to be the shockbrigade for the U.S. imperialists' line of aggression, war, and division and because of the crime it has committed before the times and the nation. The colonial stooge, the fascist dictator, a murderer -- these are the publicly acknowledged words for the Chon Tu-hwan ring which are used by the people of the world.

In an attempt to find a way out of this plight, the puppets are extending a wicked hand to the newly emerging countries and even to what they call hostile countries behind the mask of cooperation and making sheep's eyes at them. However, the farce of an all-out diplomatic effort -- which is an act of political fraud by the colonial puppets running counter to the trend of the times -- will never work in today's world aspiring for independence.

With the backing of the U.S. imperialist masters, the South Korean puppets are frenziedly engaging in the diplomacy of nation-selling and division, but this will certainly be frustrated in the situation at home and abroad which is turning out more to their disadvantage with each passing day.

VNS TALK ON CHARACTER OF ANTI-U.S. MOVEMENT

SK310121 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Where there is pressure, there is insubordination; where there is suppression, there is resistance. It is inevitable that the struggle to achieve independent national liberation in South Korea, a colony which has become a miserable anisotropic area atrociously deprived of sovereignty. The anti-U.S. struggle to achieve independence, which expands and strengthens in this land each passing day, proves this.

The South Korean masses, who have recognized that the United States never has been an angel but an evil, and never the Savior but a bitter enemy throughout the long 40 year colonial slavery of American imperialism, have raised a fiery wind of struggle by upholding the anti-U.S. banner for independence with the heroic Kwangju mass uprising as its momentum.

The unprecedently vicious fascist suppression and maneuvers for appeasement and deception by the United States and traitor Chon Tu-hwan have not been able to block the strong resistance of our masses, who have moved forward into the anti-U.S. orbit for independence. They have also been unable to frustrate the will of the masses, who want to live in the paradise of independence.

The anti-U.S. struggle for independence constantly waged by our masses, who have overcome various difficulties, has jumped on to a higher level by assuming a new aspect.

The Japanese paper ASAHI has commented on this in the advance of the South Korean masses' anti-U.S. movement for independence. The movement of the masses of all strata, including students, has notably changed in both quality and quantity.

A fundamental change in quality and quantity is [words indistinct] of our masses' anti-U.S. struggle for independence. Above all, the work of consciously awakening the masses and making them self-aware is being more successfully carried out now than at any other time in the past. Imbuing the masses with the consciousness of independence is a prerequisite for the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and a decisive guarantee for victory in the struggle.

Today, after recognizing this truth, students and pioneers of the movement to achieve South Korean independence concentrate all their energies on the work of imbuing an independent consciousness by adopting the task of imbuing the masses with awakened consciousness as the primary task to meet the realistic demand that the anti-U.S. struggle for independence be raised to the forefront.

In particular, the fact that the work of imbuing awakened consciousness thoroughly focuses on realizing the truth of chuche, respecting the consciousness of reunification and independence, and fostering consciousness of national sovereignty shows that the work of imbuing the masses with awakened consciousness has reached a high level in South Korea.

Moreover, the fact that the work of imbuing an independent consciousness is being carried out by diverse methods despite ruthless suppression by the fascist group -- methods such as publishing and distributing various leaflets, including ideological novels, letters imbuing awakened consciousness, and underground newspapers connected with activities in industrial and rural areas -- is one of aspects which also shows the height of the struggle to imbue an awakened consciousness.

The change in quality of the anti-U.S. struggle for independence is proven by the fact the anti-U.S. independence struggle has expanded and been strengthened so that it is waged by all the masses, including patriotic masses from all social circles, without remaining one which has been mainly waged by students.

No one will dispute that although the struggle of opposing the colonial facist rule of the United States has been vigorously waged in South Korea in the past, it has not been able to notably expand beyond a student movement. However, because the patriotic masses of all strata now participate together in the anti-U.S. struggle for independence, the anti-U.S. struggle for independence has firmly become the main stream of the mass movement in South Korea.

Peasants, a decisive force which decide victory or failure in the struggle to achieve national liberation, are now positively advancing into the ranks of the struggle against the United States. Anti-U.S. voices saying "down with the U.S. troops which are squeezing the blood and sweat of the peasants" and "Let us overthrow the U.S. rascals, who slaughtered the masses in Kwangju by instigating the military dictatorial regime and who are squeezing blood and sweat from peasants and workers" have continuously come from among the peasants and vehement struggles of [passage indistinct] have been also constantly waged. The peasants have also actively launched an anti-U.S. struggle for independence. The peasants' movement, which in the past was conducted mainly on the basis of the struggle opposing the authorities' exploiting agricultural policy, including struggles demanding the creation of favorable conditions for farming and compensation for damages, has rapidly changed into a movement against the United States.

Especially with the momentum of the struggle opposing the opening of domestic markets to U.S. agricultural and livestock products, such as U.S. beef and cigarettes, the anti-U.S. movement by the peasants has further developed now than ever before. This has been clearly proven by the rally and sit-in staged in April 1982 outside and inside the U.S. Embassy building in South Korea by peasants denouncing the opening of the domestic market to imports of U.S. agricultural and livestock products and the struggle waged on 1 September last year in [passage indistinct] by peasants in opposition to opening the domestic market to foreign cigarettes.

In the sector of [words indistinct], the tendency toward an anti-U.S. struggle for independence has notably increased. During the previous year, anti-U.S., antiwar, and antinuclear struggles by religionists have been repeatedly waged as many as (33) times. This number is equal to that of anti-U.S. struggles waged for 5 years by religionists since the Kwangju mass uprising. In addition, religionists of various denominations have launched into the anti-U.S. struggle after transcending differences in faith; Buddhist circles, which rarely even launched into the struggle for democratization in the past, now actively participate in the anti-U.S. movement.

Unprecedently vigorous anti-U.S. voices echo from intellectuals, such as conscientious professors, teachers, journalists, and cultural figures, and from dissident politicians. It is not accidental that foreign news agencies have concurrently pointed out that anti-U.S. tendency is the most notable factor in the South Korean masses' struggle. Therefore, the anti-U.S. struggle for independence is a primary task assigned to patriotic masses of all strata today. The fact that the work of organizing the masses is being carried out on a higher and [word indistinct] level manner elucidates a jump in quality in the present anti-U.S. movement.

New struggle organizations who goals are based on national liberation from the United States have been continuously formed among the masses of all strata. Especially, the struggle to form anti-U.S.-leaning mass organizations is being waged throughout the country on a pan-national scale after having [passage indistinct].

RALLY OVER STUDENT'S DEATH CAUSES CONCERN

DJP To Take Firm Steps

SK310758 Seoul YONHAP in English 0719 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 31 (YONHAP) -- The government and ruling Democratic Justice Party are expected to take firm steps against an outdoor rally being planned by opposition forces, including the New Korea Democratic Party, to hold memorial services for a student activist who died early this month by police torture.

A ranking ruling party official said Friday that the rally, slated for Feb. 7 in the Myeongdong Cathedral in downtown Seoul, is politically motivated and is part of the opposition forces' "struggle to overthrow the present regime" by mobilizing citizens. "Therefore, the ruling party will have to cope with the rally sternly to stabilize society and maintain order," he said, suggesting that the ruling circle has prepared various countersteps, including preventing the rally from being held.

The opposition party and opposition leaders, including Kim Tae-Chung, have decided to hold memorial services simultaneously across Korea on Feb. 7 to mark the death of Pak Chong-chol, a 21-year-old student at Seoul National University.

It is obvious that the planned rally is not just a pure memorial service, the official said, asserting that notices of the Feb. 7 rally, distributed by the opposition party, contain rabble-rousing messages, such as radical political slogans. Any efforts by the opposition to force the rally will not contribute to the development of democracy but will aggravate domestic political situation, the ruling party official said. He said that the ruling party will urge the opposition New Korea Democratic Party and religious and social organizations to abandon their plan to hold the rally.

In a related development, Yi Chun-ku, secretary general of the government party, said Saturday that the opposition party should give up its plan to hold the "illegal" outdoor rally. Yi said that the ruling party and the government are about to establish a "fundamental and systematic device" to prevent acts of torture such as that which killed Pak. He said that the opposition party should abandon its plan to hold the illegal outdoor rally and should make common efforts to establish the device.

The opposition party has decided to utilize its all-out power to support the rally. In a meeting of its senior leaders, presided over by party president Yi Min-u, the opposition party decided to hold separate memorial services at its provincial chapters. Yi Min-u said the authorities should not try to physically block the rally.

NKDP Ignores Warnings

HK020650 Hong Kong AFP in English 0554 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Seoul, Feb 2 (AFP) -- South Korea's main opposition party decided Monday to defy government warnings and push through with plans for a nationwide memorial service this week for a dissident student who died of police torture. The country's ruling party accused the opposition of "scheming" to seize power and declared it would take stern measures against any attempt to launch an anti-government popular uprising.

The two top opposition leaders, Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam, jointly declared that they would conduct the memorial service on Saturday in a peaceful and orderly manner. The two men, whose political followers largely make up the opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), warned that the government would be held responsible for any incidents if it tried to obstruct gatherings.

President Chon Tu-hwan's ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) held an emergency Central Executive Committee meeting Monday. The ruling party alleged that the opposition NKDP was "scheming" with dissidents to "seize power through a popular uprising by exploiting politically" the death of Pak Chong-chol.

The 21-year-old Seoul National University student died 19 days ago during police interrogation, his death has triggered a furore over police torture in South Korea as the case is the first time the government has admitted using torture on opponents.

The ruling party said that the opposition should immediately cancel the "impurely motivated" memorial service which it said could provide leftists and pro-communists a chance to trigger another anti-government riot.

Opposition and dissident forces last week announced a plan to organize the memorial service at major churches and temples simultaneously at 2 p.m. (05:00 GMT) throughout the country Saturday. They have urged all citizens to offer one minute's prayer and wear black ribbons to mourn Pak's death and have asked car drivers to honk their horns in an anti-government gesture denouncing torture.

Local press reports said police have decided to crack down hard on any preparations to hold the memorial service, particularly at the downtown Myongdong Roman Catholic Church in Seoul. About 100 police raided a printing shop in Seoul at the weekend and confiscated a copper-plate press as the NKDP was preparing to print half a million copies of its party newspaper announcing the memorial service.

NKDP spokesman Kim Tae-yong said that if Mr Chon's government really regretted Pak's torture-death it should support the memorial service and not try to obstruct it. Otherwise angry people could stage "dreadful" things, he said.

Government 'Weighing Options'

SK010032 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] Political controversy is building on the rally planned by the opposition, scheduled for this coming Saturday, to mourn the death of a university student who died during police interrogation.

The government and the ruling Democratic Justice Party are weighing two options -- whether to totally block or partially allow the staging of the rally.

A DJP source said yesterday that a final decision has yet to be made on what measures would be taken to cope with the rally slated to be held in the Myongdong Catholic Cathedral.

He said, "We are being very careful in making the choice because it will exert significant influence on future political developments."

If the ruling camp decides to completely block the rally, it would mean that it would take a hard-line stand in dealing with future political developments over constitutional reform, he said.

Should a decision be made to allow an indoor gathering of the rally, it will be a signal that the government and the DJP would continue to seek dialogue and compromise, added the source.

He said that the government and the ruling party are more likely to adopt the latter option.

"Attempts to totally block the rally will bring about various adverse effects. Therefore, it is expected that the rally will be allowed if it is held indoors attended by only ministers and some believers," he said.

Even if the rally is allowed to be held indoors, access to the gathering by other people will be prohibited, he added.

DJP secretary general Yi Chun-ku said he expects that the rally is likely to be an illegal political gathering.

He said he believes the government will take adequate measures to cope with the rally, suggesting that some preventive steps will be taken by law-enforcement officials.

Yi made it clear that his party is opposed to the opposition-planned rally, arguing that the opposition politicians are attempting to reap political gains from the recent torture death incident.

"Any attempts to politically abuse the case by holding a mass rally will only contribute to further aggravating the political situation," he said.

He also said his party will consider formally requesting that the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party scrap its plan to hold the rally.

Meantime, party sources said the DJP is considering a change in its schemes to revise the Constitution.

The DJP move is to cope with recent political developments over the torture death of a university student.

The sources said most party lawmakers feel it is difficult to start full negotiations over constitutional amendment while there are disputes over the torture death incident.

Based on this notion, the DJP lawmakers plan to postpone by about a month the passage of the party's constitutional reform bill in the National Assembly.

It has been expected that the government party would try to push its reform bill through the Assembly by March.

The DJP may ask the opposition to set a deadline for rewriting the Constitution.

In an effort to induce the opposition to join constitutional negotiations, the ruling party is also expected to propose discussions on the revision of Assembly election laws.

According to the sources, the DJP is also studying measures to take if the National Assembly fails to pass the DJP reform bill.

As part of its endeavors to settle the torture death incident at an early date, the party will soon establish a human rights committee within the party.

It also plans to urge the government to take comprehensive steps aimed at ensuring the protection of human rights.

JAPAN, TAIWAN DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR DPRK DEFECTORS

SK020324 Seoul YONHAP in English 0308 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 (YONHAP) -- The 11 North Korean defectors now aboard their small boat in Tsuruga port may have a hard time finding a permanent home, due to Japan's plan to send them to Taiwan, a highly placed government source said Monday.

Japan's idea of sending them to Taiwan has met with an informal, passive response from Taipei, which said it "might receive" the defectors, who drifted into a Japanese port aboard a North Korean environmental patrol boat late last month. Taiwan said it would notify Japan of its official position on Tokyo's request for accepting the North Koreans after the lunar new year's break, the source said. Tokyo and Taipei are negotiating through government, parliamentary and Red Cross channels, according to the source. The source said that the Japanese Government hopes to close the case before the end of this week but added that the matter is completely up to Taipei.

Another government source said it would take considerable time for the Taiwanese Government to come up with a final response, noting that Taipei is demanding that the negotiations be consolidated through semi-official representational organizations set up in each country. Taiwan and Japan do not have diplomatic ties.

One of the possibilities now being considered by Taipei, the source said, is that Taiwan could receive the North Koreans on a short-term basis on the condition that they will ultimately resettle in South Korea. The source pointed out that only a handful of Mainland Chinese who escaped to Hong Kong have been allowed to defect to Taiwan, reflecting the fact that Taiwan handles defection cases on a selective basis. This suggests that a prudent approach could prolong the negotiations between Taiwan and Japan, the source said.

MEMORANDUM ON RELATIONS SIGNED WITH U.S.

OW291825 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1720 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 29 Jan (MONTSAME) -- A memorandum of understanding between the Government of the MPR and the Government of the USA concerning the facilitation of the work of the diplomatic missions was signed by G. Nyamdo, MPR permanent representative to the UN, and G. Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, in Washington in connection with the establishment of diplomatic relations between the MPR and the USA (27 January 1987).

FOREIGN MINISTER IN USSR FOR 'WORKING VISIT'

Begins Visit 29 Jan

OW311228 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1708 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 30 Jan (MONTSAME) -- MPR foreign minister, Member of the MPRP Central Committee Mangalyn Dugersuren started on 29 January his working visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Government.

Feted by Shevardnadze

OW311820 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1707 GMT 31 Jan 87

[quotation marks as received]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 31 January (MONTSAME) -- On 30 January E. Shevardnadze hosted a lunch in honour of the visiting MPR Foreign Minister M. Dugersuren. In their speeches, the ministers made a special point of the situation in the Asia-Pacific region.

E. Shevardnadze said in particular: "Mongolia is one of the oldest states of Asia and the Soviet Union has its longest boundaries in that continent. This, of course, does not mean that we have claims to some exclusive rights in Asian affairs. It's just that we are aware of the responsibility which lies on the USSR and the MPR in the struggle for the Asia-Pacific region not being an arena of military confrontation. We see our interest in uniting the efforts, in cooperation, with full respect for the right of every nation to live the way it chooses.

It is absolutely obvious that neither the perspective of a nuclear-weapon-free world nor the comprehensive system of international security is thinkable without the inclusion into this process of such a boundless human and territorial mass of our globe which the Asia-Pacific region is, he underscored.

It is difficult to find in that continent a country or a people who have escaped the miseries of wars and aggressions. It is in that continent where the first American atomic bombs exploded and with it were linked the first plans of using American nuclear weapons against the Korean, Vietnamese, and Chinese peoples. And namely in Asia the American imperialism had unleashed the two largest armed adventures since World War Two: In Korea and Vietnam.

"Of course, we do not have at our disposal some panacea from all troubles in the Asian Continent. However, the peoples and governments of Asia possess a most rich political experience of struggle for the assertion of the principles of non-violence, non-use of force, of the principles of goodneighborliness, trust and equitable cooperation, against imperialist diktat. Suffice it to recall the five principles of PancaSila or the ten principles of the Bandung conference, the Soviet minister said.

Speaking on the situation around Afghanistan, he pointed out: "We believe that the situation both in and around Afghanistan can be settled through political means on the basis of the cessation and guaranteed non-resumption of outside interference in the affairs of the DRA. For our part we are doing everything that depends on us to facilitate the process of settlement. By no means our intentions, as CPSU CC General Secretary M. Gorbachev stressed repeatedly, are those of keeping the Soviet military contingent in Afghanistan. We have already started its withdrawal, having pulled out six regiments. We outrightly state that the withdrawal of troops can be speeded up after a reliable political settlement is achieved, E. Shevardnadze underscored.

"The main obstacle on the road to settling the situation around Afghanistan is the policy of neoglobalism, the Soviet minister said. From undeclared wars against Afghanistan and Kampuchea, support for Punjab extremists up to the brazen-faced annexation of Micronesia, interference in the political affairs of the Philippines, pressure on New Zealand -- such is the far from being complete list of imperial and hegemonic deeds of neoglobalists."

It is the U.S. leaders who in every way push Japan towards material and spiritual revival of militarism. What is left is to wonder at how easily Japan's government has annulled its own decision to limit the growth of the military budget and gets its country involved in the space arms race through participation in the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative", without contemplating on the dangerous consequences of [word indistinct].

Despite the negative trends in the policy of Japan, we strive to steer a course at establishing with her relations of goodneighbourliness, trust, and mutually benefical cooperation."

E. Shevardnadze [words indistinct]: In contrast to the logic of neoglobalism, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries show an innovative approach to world affairs in the interests of all mankind. This is evidenced by the Soviet Union's practical steps: from its bold proposals in Reykjavik to Soviet-Indian summit talks in New Delhi.

He qualified the Soviet-Indian declaration as a historic document close and understandable to all peoples in the world. "It not only declares the objective of a world free of nuclear weapons and violence, but also formulates the programme for the creation of such a world. [passage indistinct]

The Soviet Union and the Mongolian People's Republic, together with the other socialist countries as well as non-aligned states, go hand in hand towards tackling this long-term task. The MPR is making a worthy contribution to improving the international situation.

We highly evaluate your activities in the UN where a number of important documents serving the interests of the cause of peace and mankind's progress have been adopted, [passage indistinct] among the states of Asia, to create a mechanism excluding the use of force among the countries of Asia and the Pacific is growing today, E. Shevardnadze underscored.

In conclusion he emphasized: "Speaking figuratively, both in good and bad weather the Soviet Union has been a friend to People's Mongolia. The same will be the case in the future. Let us cherish and strengthen the fraternity of our parties, countries and peoples".

In his reply speech, Mongolian Foreign Minister M. Dugersuren said that the MPR and the Soviet Union share one and the same view that the strengthening of peace and prevention of the threat of nuclear war are vitally important for the future of humanity. The national Year of Peace has been marked by the active struggle of the socialist countries and all peace-loving forces for the removal of the nuclear war menace. The USSR's historic initiatives set forth by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev on 15 January and 28 July 1986, as well as during the Soviet-American meeting in Reykjavik and the Budapest address of Warsaw Treaty member-states, are the landmarks in those efforts of a truly great magnitude. A new political thinking in the conditions of the nuclear age is taking root. To a large extent, mankind owes all this to the world socialist community, in the first place to the Soviet Union which is in the vanguard of the peace offensive.

In close interaction with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, the minister went on, Mongolia exerts no small effort in the struggle for peace and security in Asia and the world over. The constructive initiatives of the USSR, Mongolia, the fraternal Indochina countries, and the DPRK are winning ever greater support.

In this connection M. Dugersuren pointed out that the large-scale proposals formulated by M. Gorbachev in Vladivostok opened a new stage in the joint search for ways of developing relations of trust, goodneighbourliness, and cooperation among the states of Asia and the Pacific, of settling the conflict situations and disputes in the region through peaceful, political means.

The Mongolian minister noted that the MPR highly assessed the DRA Government's policy of national reconciliation in Afghanistan and fully supported the efforts of the DRA and the USSR at settling the situation around that country.

According to him, the Soviet-Indian declaration on the principles of a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world laid a clear-cut alternative to the aggressive policy of forceful pressure, total militarization, and military preparations.

The intensification of neglobalist ambitions of the USA and its closest allies in the Asia-Pacific region demands all-out unification and stepping up of the efforts of all forces standing for peace and against military threat in the region. Proceeding from this, the MPR has tabled the initiative to build a mechanism that would rule out the use of force in relations among Asia-Pacific states, the Mongolian foreign minister said.

We shall further make efforts for promoting interaction between all peace-loving states for the sake of peace, security, and cooperation, he concluded.

MEDIA, PUBLIC PRAISE GORBACHEV PLENUM REPORT

0W300903 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1714 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 29 Jan (MONTSAME) -- M. Gorbachev's report at the regular CPSU CC plenary session is in the centre of attention of the Mongolian mass media and public.

The Mongolian radio broadcast the theses of M. Gorbachev's report in Mongolian.

Radio and TV commentaries unanimously note the lofty optimism and assuredness of the Soviet people and the Lenin party in the success of their current work on reorganising their economy and democratizing the life of the party and society as a whole.

Numerous letters coming to the mass media from Mongolian people of all walks of life contain brotherly wishes for the Soviet people to successfully fulfil the tasks put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress.

The full text of M. Gorbachev's report is published in the 29 January issue of the national daily "UNEN".

MONTSAME COMMENTATOR HAILS GORBACHEV REPORT

OW300901 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1708 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 29 Jan (MONTSAME) -- A MONTSAME commentator writes:

The firm course of the Lenin party at radical reorganisation of the Soviet economy and the broad democratisation of the life of the party and Soviet society has been once again affirmed in the report of General Secretary M. Gorbachev at the plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee.

In his report, the Soviet leader gave an objective assessment of the work done by Soviet society since the historic 27th CPSU Congress (February 1986). The political outcome of the post-congress period, as it was noted in the report of M. Gorbachev, is "that big changes take place in the life of Soviet society and positive tendencies are gaining momentum. The political line of the 27th CPSU Congress, practical activities of the party on its realisation and the reorganisation itself have enlisted broad support of the Soviet people."

The Soviet leader convincingly disproved the existing conjectures to the effect that the reorganisation is a "temporary phenomenon". He gave a precise analysis of the problems and negative phenomena caused by conservatism, inertia and the striving to turn their backs on everything not fitting into the habitual stereotypes, which prevailed in the past in the policy and practice of the party.

Guided by Leninist principles of openness, objectiveness in analysing the past, the current moment and the tasks for the future, Soviet society will succeed in implementing the great and responsible tasks put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress, and thereby once again will show an example of the genuine standard-bearer in the struggle of humanity for socialism and communism, the commentator writes.

YOUTH PAPER LAUDS KABUL'S RECONCILIATION LINE

OW300905 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1717 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 29 Jan (MONTSAME) -- The youth paper "ZALUUCHUUDYN UNEN" writes that the bold policy of the Afghan Government on national reconciliation is realistic and feasible, for it is the expression of the long-cherished dream of the Afghan people to live and work in peace, and it is built on a sober account of the interests of all strata of the Afghan community, on the understanding of the fact that the achievement of national reconciliation is a complicated matters demanding a painstaking and thorough work.

However, this policy and the practical steps towards national reconciliation by no means are the pretext for the enemies of Afghanistan to think that the positions of the Afghan leadership are weakened. Democratic Afghanistan is strong as never before and the transformations taking place there are irreversible, the paper underscores.

KOY BUNTHA GREETS SRV TROOPS ON NEW YEAR

BK310139 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Comrade Koy Buntha, PRK minister of national defense, has sent greetings to cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army and the Vietnamese military experts on the occasion of the fraternal Vietnamese people's traditional New year. The message noted:

On the occasion of the fraternal Vietnamese people's traditional New Year, the year of the Cat, on behalf of the entire KPRAF, I am very happy to extend best wishes to the comrade cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army and military experts. May you enjoy good health and more victories in carrying out your noble internationalist duties.

I am very happy with the great victories scored by the Vietnamese party, people, and Army in defending and building their fatherland, particularly in building the economy which is proceeding vigorously, as well as the success of the recent Sixth CPV Congress.

Vietnam's traditional New Year this year falls at a time when our entire party, people, and army are conducting an emulation drive in implementing the second year of the resolutions of the fifth national representatives congress in order to realize the party's three strategic goals toward totally controlling the entire border and the whole of the country. Our success is attributable to the comrade Vietnamese experts and cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army who have wholeheartedly given us all-round assistance in the defense and construction of our fatherland. It also attests to the success of the Cambodia-Vietnam special militant alliance.

We will always remember that Vietnam is our friend who has shared the same trench with us in the fight against our common enemies: the French colonialists, U.S. imperialists, and Beijing expansionists. Fraternal cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army have, shoulder-to-shoulder with the KPRAF and the Cambodian people, fought and defeated all sabotage activities and maneuvers of the enemy of all stripes, particularly the Pol Pot-Son Sann-Sihanouk clique. This brilliant sacrifice has created conditions for us to gain a position of strength and victory over the enemy, thus enabling us to advance gradually toward self-assistance in carrying out the cause of defending our fatherland and revolutionary achievements and weakening the enemy even more seriously and plunging him toward a total collapse.

The great sacrifice in terms of flesh and blood made by the comrade cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army and the Vietnamese experts has contributed to firmly strengthening and developing the special militant solidarity of the two nations, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Once again, on this occasion of your traditional New Year, on behalf of the KPRAF, we would like to extend best regards to all cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army and the Vietnamese experts on internationalist mission in our country, particularly to those comrades wounded, sick, and disabled. We wish you new victories on this New Year. Through you, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude and best wishes to your families and the families of those who have sacrificed their lives for the cause of our Cambodian revolution.

May all you enjoy good health. May the Cambodia-Vietnam militant solidarity and friendship last forever.

DEFENSE MINISTRY GROUP MEETS SRV EXPERTS, SOLDIERS

BK010730 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] On the occasion of the traditional New Year of the fraternal Vietnamese people, the PRK Ministry of National Defense has sent delegations to visit and extend best wishes to the Vietnamese experts who have been fulfilling their internationalist duties on the Cambodian soil and the cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army who are hospitalized in various hospitals.

A delegation led by Comrade Meas Kroch, deputy minister of national defense, and accompanied by Comrade Ham Kin, chief of the General Logistics Department; Comrade Ham Kin, chief of the General Logistics Department; Comrade Chieng Am, deputy chief of the General Political Department; and the comrades representing the three departments under the Ministry of National Defense, visited and extended best wishes to the staffs of the Vietnamese army volunteers at the Vietnamese Embassy in Cambodia.

On this cordial occasion, on behalf of the Ministry of National Defense, Comrade Meas Kroch expressed gratitude to the fraternal party, state, army, and people of Vietnam who have given all kinds of support and assistance to us and even sacrificed their flesh and blood for the cause of our Cambodian revolution. The comrade also extended New Year greetings to the Vietnamese army volunteers for them to enjoy good health so that they can continue to help our Cambodian revolution achieve greater victories.

In his reply, the comrade representative of the Vietnamese volunteer army hailed the delegation and particularly the Cambodian party, state, and people who have given good care and created good conditions for the Vietnamese army volunteers to fulfill their internationalist duties in Cambodia. The comrade also pledged to make further efforts this new year to score new victories by making all kinds of sacrifice for the Cambodian revolution to advance toward socialism. The get-together took place in a joyous and most cordial atmosphere.

RADIO-TV PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH USSR 28 JAN

BK311310 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1153 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Phnom Penh, 31 Jan (SPK) -- A protocol on cooperation between the radio and television of Cambodia and the Soviet Union for the period from 1987 to 1989 was signed in Phnom Penh on Wednesday, 28 January.

The signatories were Kim Yin, member of the KPRP Central Committee and general director of the Cambodian Radio and Television Commission, and Yuriy Orlov, vice chairman of the State Committee of the Council of Ministers for television and radio broadcasting of the USSR, who is visiting Cambodia.

Present on this occasion were Pav Hamphan, vice chairman of the KPRP Central Committee's Commission for Propaganda and Education; Yuriy Ivanovich Radzhukov, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the USSR to Cambodia; and others.

The Soviet guests left Phnom Penh on Thursday at the end of their 9-day visit to Cambodia.

During their stay, they were received by Khoy Khunhuor, member of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of its Commission for Propaganda and Education. They also visited some cultural and economic establishments in Phnom Penh, and the Angkor Wat temples in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF GDR ECONOMIC DELEGATION

Received by Hun Sen

OW301916 Phnom Pehn SPK in English 1130 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 30 -- Kampuchean Premier Hun Sen received in Phnom Penh Thursday afternoon a delegation of the G.D.R.-Kampuchea Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation led by Horst Soelle, vice premier of the German Democratic Republic and president of the G.D.R. section of the said commission.

Rolf Dach, G.D.R. ambassador to Kampuchea, was also present.

On this occasion, Premier Hun Sen, also Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, expressed his satisfaction at the fruitful cooperation between Kampuchea and the GDR, which, according to him, contributed to Kampuchea's economic development.

The Kampuchean leader spoke of the steady advance of the Kampuchean revolution in the past eight years and attributed the all-round developments to, on the one hand, the tireless efforts of the Kampuchean people and, on the other hand, to the support and assistance of the fraternal socialist countries, including the G.D.R.

Premier Hun Sen thanked the party, the government, and people of the G.D.R. for their fraternal assistance to the Kampuchean people in their national construction and defense. He asked the G.D.R. head delegate, Horst Soelle, to convey his compliment to G.D.R. Premier Willy Stoph and the other G.D.R. party and state leaders.

For his part, Horst Soelle said that the G.D.R. has followed with keen interests the fruition of the cooperation between the two countries and expected that this cooperation would obtain better results. After highly appreciating the efforts made by the three Indochinese people in maintaining good relations with the neighbouring countries, he said he was very pleased to see remarkable achievements of the Kampuchean people in overcoming all difficulties left behind by the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Horst Soelle also reaffirmed the G.D.R.'s support and assistance to the fraternal Kampuchean people in their national construction and defense.

Horst Soelle and his party left Phnom Penh Friday morning after a four-day official friendship visit to Kampuchea. They were seen off at [words indistinct] airport by Chea Soth, Politburo member of the party Central Committee, vice premier and president of the Kampuchean Section of the Kampuchea-G.D.R. Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation; Chea Chan To, minister of planning; Phang Sareth, deputy minister of home and foreign trade; and other Kampuchean officials. Rolf Dach, G.D.R. ambassador to Kampuchea, was also present. While in Kampuchea, the G.D.R. economic delegation signed with its Kampuchean counterpart three documents on cooperation. It went to lay a wreath at the Monument for the Dead and visited the Tuol Sleng Museum of Genocide, the former Royal Palace, the National Museum in Phnom Penh, the "Liberation" cigarette factory in a southern suburb of Phnom Penh, and Angkor Wat in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province.

Prior to its departure the delegation also went to hand over a quantity of gifts to the "April 17" hospital in the western part of Phnom Penh.

Cooperation Protocols Signed

0W301914 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1122 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 30 -- Three documents on cooperation between the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the German Democratic Republic were signed in Phnom Penh Thursday afternoon.

Minutes on the second working session of the Kampuchea-G.D.R Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in preparing the programme of the two countries' economic, scientific, technical cooperation and development up to the year 2,000 were signed by Chea soth, Politburo member of the party Central Committee, vice premier and president of the Kampuchean section of the commission, and Horst Soelle member of the Socialist Unity Party of the G.D.R Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the G.D.R and president of the G.D.R section of the commission.

An agreement on professional training of Kampuchean students and workers was signed by Ek Sam-ol, deputy minister of education and Rolf Dach, G.D.R ambassador to Kampuchea. Under the agreement, the G.D.R yearly from 1986 to 1990 grants Kampuchea 90 scholarships for technical school students and 70 others for university and college students. In furtherance of an agreement signed in April 1985, the two sides also signed a programme for 1987 cooperation in rubber production. Acting on the programme, the G.D.R side will continue to help Kampuchea restore rubber plantation on 10,000 ha at Chamkar Andoung, Kompong Cham Province and grant more solidarity aid to the workers there.

All the three documents on cooperation between Kampuchea and G.D.R have resulted from the second session of the Kampuchean-G.D.R Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation which was held here Wednesday. During the session, the two sides discussed issues relating to cooperation in rubber production, the promotion of goods exchanges, the G.D.R's solidarity aid to Kampuchea, the personnel training and the scientific and technical cooperation.

The two sides were scheduled to hold the third session of the commission in the capital city of the German Democratic Republic during the third quarter of 1988.

In 1986, the volume of goods exchange between the two countries increased by 18 percent over 1985, and the GDR's solidarity aid to Kampuchea amounted to 18.7 million marks (GDR currency).

As a result of the cooperation in personnel training, there are since 1980 more than 800 Kampuchean who have got their study in G.D.R universities and vocational schools. Some 300 of them have been back home and are now working at various public offices, workshops and factories.

POLISH PARTY ECONOMIC DELEGATION ARRIVES 29 JAN

BK300546 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1127 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 29 -- A delegation of Economic Department of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, led by its deputy head Kzysytof Chinowsky, arrived there this morning for an official friendship visit to Kampuchea.

The delegation was warmly welcomed at Pochentong Airport by Prach Sun, vice president of the Commission for External Relations of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, and Nuch Than, vice president of the Commission for Economics of the party Central Committee, and other officials. Polish ambassador to Kampuchea Josef Kobialka was also present.

Meets With Chan Phin

BK020740 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0401 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Phnom Penh, 2 Feb (SPK) -- Talks between the delegation of the KPRP Central Committee's Economic Commission headed by its chairman, Chan Phin, and that of the Economic Department of the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee led by Kzyztof Chinowski, deputy chief of the department, were held in Phnom Penh on 30 January. The two sides exchanged views aimed at further promoting their trade cooperation.

AFP: RESISTANCE KILLS 28 SRV SOLDIERS 28 JAN

BK020934 Hong Kong AFP in English 0922 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 2 (AFP) -- A combined force of the three Cambodian resistance groups killed 28 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded seven in an attack on Vietnamese positions in northwestern Cambodia, a spokesman for one of the groups said here Monday.

A force of 260 guerrillas from the National Sihanoukist Army (ANS), the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) and the Khmer Rouge attacked Vietnamese positions some 40 kilometres (25 miles) from the Thai-Cambodian border in Cambodia's Battambang Province Wednesday [28 January] the ANS spokesman said. The combined force captured three Vietnamese positions, killed 28 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded seven in the hour-long attack. The resistance fighters also seized 17 rifles, two rocket launchers and a radio, and destroyed 15 huts and an ammunition dump, the spokesman added. Casualties suffered by the guerrillas were not immediately known.

The Cambodian resistance coalition, led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, fields some 50,000 guerrillas against an estimated 140,000 Vietnamese troops deployed in Cambodia to prop up to the pro-Vietnamese government in Phnom Penh.

266 RETURNEES IN BATTAMBANG DISTRICT IN 1986

BK311325 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1059 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 31 -- Acknowledging the six-point clemency policy, 37 Khmer reactionaries have broken with their rank and reported themselves to the revolutionary authorities in Battambang District, Battambang Province, 30 km northwest of Phnom Penh, bringing along 34 assorted guns and a quantity of ammunition.

In 1986, the district received 266 misled people. Of them, 191 were ex-Polpotists and 75 ex-sereikas (Sonsannians) who brought along 133 guns and a quantity of ammunition. They all were granted with facilities to embark on a new life with their families and relatives.

LPRP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD 26-31 JAN

BK020420 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 2 Feb 87

[31 January communique issued by LPRP Central Committee]

[Text] The third plenary meeting of the Fourth LPRP Central Committee session was held from 26 to 31 January to review and assess the implementation of the state plan and budget for 1986 and to approve the orientations for the state plan and budget for 1987 and, at the same time, to discuss and work out the program of action for 1987.

Based on the understanding of the orientations and main tasks for socioeconomic development in the Second 5-Year Plan outlined at the fourth party congress, the party Central Committee meeting carefully and objectively studied and analyzed the country's socioeconomic situation and gave the following evaluation:

In 1986 the people of all ethnic minorities enthusiastically and continuously took part in movements in all spheres and recorded great achievements to welcome and salute the fourth party congress, thereby enabling our country's economy to further develop. As compared with 1985, the social production output increased by 11 percent and productivity by 8 percent. The people's material and spiritual life has been improved a step further. In particular, we have learned some basic lessons regarding the conversion to the socialist business accounting mechanism; many economic units at the grass-roots level have correctly carried out business and production in accordance with the new economic management mechanism. All this has created an important basis and a fine condition for socioeconomic development in 1987.

Nevertheless, we still have some shortcomings, particularly in the spheres of distribution and circulation -- production is not yet linked to distribution and circulation; business and production management is not yet effective and there still remains the phenomenon of extravagance; the understanding of the new economic management mechanism is not yet profound and this mechanism is not yet being correctly carried out in some areas.

The meeting unanimously agreed on the objectives and orientations for the socioeconomic development plan and the state budget for 1987 in which efforts will be concentrated on vigorously developing agricultural, forestry, and industrial production in order to build a new, progressive economic structure step by step; consolidate and build socialist economic sectors; bring into full play the genuine potentials of the various economic sectors in economic development in accordance with the state's direction; strive to mobilize domestic sources of revenue and, at the same time, try to gain and utilize more effectively all external sources of revenue; stimulate the production of consumer goods and goods for export; stimulate goods circulation and the purchase of grain and other agricultural and forestry products; basically ensure the balance of revenue and expenditure in the budget; maintain and normalize at a definite level the purchasing power of the kip currency; ensure the real salaries of state employees; and improve the living conditions of the people of all ethnic minorities with each passing day.

Reviewing the results of the meeting, Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan said that in 1986, the first year of the Second 5-Year Plan, many branches of work were quite positive and effective in implementing the annual plan and budget and in resolutely shifting toward the new mechanism and grasping the socioeconomic attitude and efficiency in economic movements.

However, we are still beset with considerable shortcomings -- in particular, the various objectives and expected figures were not sufficiently concentrated, all-round, or complete, lacking balance and concrete characteristics; and we have not worked out plans from the grass-roots level upward, have not yet extensively carried out the signing of economic contracts, and have not relied on economic and technical procedures and economic and technical analysis plans. As a result, the plan and budget have not been carried out as effectively as expected.

To continue boosting production so that it will develop strongly and firmly and to definitely and all-sidedly convert to the new mechanism in accordance with the party's new line of thinking and attitude, it is necessary to firmly grasp some main characteristics in working out plans -- that is, they must reflect the party's line and policies and must start from the special responsibility, requirements, and true capability of each branch, locality, and grass-roots level in order to define the objectives, expected figures, and concrete methods for a plan. A plan must be concentrated, balanced, and concrete.

To ensure the correct implementation of the plan and budget in accordance with the direction set by the fourth party congress, all branches of work and all levels must strengthen political and ideological work, renovate the organization, and heighten the quality of apparatuses and personnel.

Then the comrade general secretary emphasized some important aspects of the situation in the world and in Southeast Asia. He said: The world situation is still developing in a complex manner, but the overall trend is one of struggle amid peaceful coexistence. The comrade highly evaluated the new attitude regarding the current world development and the Soviet Union's principled stand with regard to international relations and the great efforts of various nations in the struggle for peace and security and to free the world from nuclear weapons and violence. The current outstanding policy in the Soviet Union and various socialist countries is to shift to a new strategy in the socioeconomic sphere, to renovate the organizational structure, and to promote and develop socialist democracy and autonomy in the management system, with a view to doing away with slowness, and lack of progress and to boost the cause of socialist construction to a new level.

In conclusion, Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan stressed: In 1987, we must continue to closely coordinate with Vietnam and Cambodia in the struggle to turn Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation, thereby positively contributing to the struggle for peace and against the policy of bellicosity and the arms race being pursued by the imperialists.

Vientiane, 31 January 1987

LPRP Central Committee

Kaysone Addresses Plenum

BK021110 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Vientiane, February 2 (OANA-KPL) -- The Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee opened here its 3rd plenary session (4th congress) from Jan 26 to 31 to review the execution of the 1986's plans and budget and work out orientations of 1987's action plan and budget.

Basing on a comprehension on the basic orientations and tasks within a framework of the Second Five-Year State Plan for Socio-Economic Development put forth by the 4th party congress, the 3rd Plenum has carefully and objectively analysed the national economic and social circumstances and assessed the elation and continuity of masses contribution to all work-sectors in 1986, and hence guaranteeing the national economic development with a respective increase of 11 and 8 percent in gross national production and labor productivity compared to 1985's figures. Thereafter, the people's living conditions, both materially and spiritually, were improved. The plenum has noted the specialty of and preliminary lessons in the application of the new economic management mechanism. This new method of socialist production was largely introduced at several economic units in line with the party and government's new conception of economic development. Hence, it has given existence to important bases and a good prospect for the socio-economic development in 1987.

Nevertheless, the plenum also pointed out some errors and weak points, particularly in the distribution of goods and its production, the inefficient economic control, and the existing phenomena of wasting and the incorrect implementation of and inappropriate comprehension of the new economic mechanism.

The plenum has unanimously adopted the objectives and orientations for the socio-economic promotion and the State Budget for 1987 fiscal year. In this connection, it calls for further assiduousness and concentration in the agro-forestry and industrial production in order to form step-by-step a new more progressive economic structure, firmly establish and improve the socialist economic sectors, develop the real potentials of all economic sectors in accordance with the party and government's economic development guidelines, and fully consolidate internal sources of income and effectively make use all external source of income. In addition, it also calls for the stimulation of goods production and its distribution and exports, and for the stabilization of the price-value of the national currency "kip" and the guarantee of personnel's wages.

In his closing speech, Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP CC, has estimated that in 1986 -- the inception year of the Second Five-Year State Plan -- a number of services had achieved their plans and were active in the successful introduction of the new economic management mechanism. However, the general secretary also pointed out some weaknesses as resulted from malfunctioning in the series of this economic production system.

"In its stance for the improvement of production and the full conversion into the new economic conception, the party must firmly recognize the basic character in drafting a plan, in which the party's guidelines and policy should be clearly illustrated. The planning should take into account the peculiarities, roles, demands and genuine abilities of the services concerned. The plan must be comprehensive and actual and balanced," K. Phomvihan underlined. He appealed to all services of all levels to consolidate the political consciousness and ameliorate their organizational aspect and productivity.

The general secretary then stressed on the situation in the region and in the world. He said that the world situation is still complex but the global trend is to struggle in the framework of peaceful coexistence. He welcomed the new positions and initiatives of the Soviet Union in the international relations, the struggle for peace and security of the peoples in order to transform this world into one denuclearized and non-violent.

The most topical events which is growing in strength within the USSR and the socialist community, according to him, is the strategic reorganisation of the socio-economic basis, the reorganisation of all the public organs, the widening of the socialist democracy and the auto-management principles aiming at eradicating the wasting of time and money and promoting the socialist construction in its highest level. The general secretary finally pointed out that in 1987, we have to continue to coordinate our effort with Vietnam and Kampuchea in the struggle for the transformation of the Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation. We also have to increase our role in the common struggle for peace against the militarist policies and the plan for the arm-race of the imperialists.

SPC PLENARY SESSION FOR 1987 HELD 2 FEB

BKO20700 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] The regular plenary session for 1987 of the Supreme People's Council [SPC] was formally convened in Vientiane this morning under the chairmanship of Sisomphon Lovansai, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman and acting chairman of the SPC. An honored guest present at the session was Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers.

Also attending the opening ceremony were Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and acting president of the LPDR; Khamtai Siphandon, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, secretary of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense; Sali Vongkhamsao, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, secretary of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Planning Committee; Khamsouk Keola, vice chairman and secretary general of the SPC; standing members and members of the SPC; and members of the Council of Ministers and many guests.

In his opening speech, Acting SPC Chairman Sisomphon Lovansai first invited the session to bow in memory of the late SPC Vice Chairman Faidang Lobaliayao who passed away in 1986. Sisomphon Lovansai then pointed to the significance of the current plenary session. He said:

[Begin Sisomphon recording] The regular plenary session of the SPC for 1987 is convened in an atmosphere of joy and happiness over the glorious success of the Fourth LPRP Congress, which marks a new step of great development of the Lao revolution. The various resolutions of the congress reflect a new acknowledgement of the party's leadership and guidance on the basis of new attitude, new line of thinking, and new methods. These resolutions are a beacon illuminating the path of advancement for the Lao revolution and leading the Lao people to advance to win new achievements in implementing the various orientations, tasks, and programs adopted by the congress and in triumphantly fulfilling the Second 5-Year Plan, thus positively contributing to the struggle movements for peace, independence, democracy, and social progress in the world as well as in this region.

At this regular session for 1987, the SPC will hear, study, consider, and approve the following documents.

1. Report on the activities and implementation of plans of the Council of Ministers;
2. Report on the implementation of the state budget for 1986 and the draft budget for 1987;
3. Report reviewing the activities and tasks of the SPC for 1986 and its plan for 1987.

Moreover, our session will approve some other resolutions and statements.

Dear comrades, under the beacon of the resolutions of the party congress, 1987 will be a very important year. It will a year in which we will implement and turn into practice the resolutions of the fourth party congress and in which we will carry out the Second 5-Year Plan. To positively build and renovate the SPC in its capacity as an organ of supreme state power, and to carry out our role and all or tasks toward the country and people, the SPC members, with pride and firm confidence, must fulfill the tasks adopted by us as well as the tasks and responsibility of the SPC. We must be firmly confident in the success of the congress and carry out the party's resolutions, plans, and policies within the framework of our SPC's responsibility. [end recording]

On behalf of the Council of Ministers, Sali Vongkhamsao reported on the evaluation of the implementation of the 1986 plan and proposed to the session the draft orientations and tasks of the LPDR's socioeconomic plan for 1987. He pointed out the actual achievements recorded in the spheres of agriculture, forestry, industry, communications, transportation, post, trade, construction of basic establishments, finance, and economic relations with foreign countries, and in the cultural and social spheres.

Regarding the agricultural and forestry sphere alone, Sali Vongkhamsao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, pointed out: Compared with 1985, the value of agricultural production output earned from cultivation and animal husbandry in 1986 increased by 11 percent in 1986. The production of grain and some industrial crops for export also increased. It is expected that the output of paddy production will be 1.45 million metric tons -- an increase of 3.9 percent. It is also expected that coffee production will increase by 17 percent, tobacco by 65 percent, and cardamom by 43 percent. The production of other crops such as corn, mung bean, soybean, and groundnut is also expected to increase. Animal husbandry has developed. Veterinary networks have been improved and expanded in each locality, thus more effectively preventing and countering animal diseases. It is expected that the number of cattle will be more than 1.6 million head -- an increase of 4.7 percent. The number of pigs, goats, and poultry is also expected to increase. The collectivization work was consolidated and further developed in 1986 in accordance with the direction for the conduct of businesses. Many branches were managed by one board of directors. For example, many cooperatives have affirmed that initial results have been achieved after carrying out work in accordance with this direction. At present, there are now 3,976 agricultural cooperatives throughout the country, covering almost 74 percent of the peasant families and 65 percent of rice fields throughout the country.

To build material and technical bases for the agricultural branch, the state invested more than 18 percent of all its capital in 1986 on building such bases.

Regarding forestry work, various branches and localities have attentively planted and preserved trees with economic value on more than 300 hectares and have surveyed forested areas on 190,000 hectares.

SRV AMBASSADOR HOSTS NEW YEAR RECEPTION

BK301126 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Vientiane, January 30 (KPL) -- Nguyen Xuan, ambassador of the SRV to Laos, held here on Jan 28 a function on the occasion of the Vietnamese new year.

Honoured guests present at the ceremony were Sisavat Keobounphan, Politburo member and secretary of the LPRP CC and secretary of the party committee of Vientiane, Sali Vongkhamsao, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, Saman Vi-gnaket, Politburo member and secretary of the LPRP CC and head of its organizational commission, Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the party CC, minister of industry and handicraft and chairman of the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association, and other members of the party, ministers, vice-ministers and representatives of mass organizations. The ambassadors of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and of the USSR were also on hand.

On this occasion, the Vietnamese ambassador, Nguyen Xuan, said that the Vietnamese new year this year is being celebrated in an atmosphere filled with elation following the successful conclusion of the 6th congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

He expressed his conviction that under the clear-sighted leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam the Vietnamese people will victoriously implement the party's resolutions in the tasks of the national defence and socialist construction.

The function was filled with festive jubilation.

PASASON HAILS DPRK'S KIM IL-SONG PEACE PROPOSAL

BK021249 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 31 Jan 87

[PASASON commentary: "The DPRK's Reasonable Proposal" -- date not given]

[Text] In his speech delivered at the first session of the Eighth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in early January, Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK, outlined the new proposal advanced by the DPRK to hold high-level political and military negotiations between the North and the South. The proposed negotiations will lead to the reduction of tension and the elimination of the danger of war in the Korean peninsula, thus creating an atmosphere of mutual trust which will become a favorable condition for moving forward to settle various urgent issues, aimed at peacefully reunifying Korea.

The new proposal advanced by the WPK and the DPRK Government is reasonable, constructive, and suitable to the current reality. It not only reflects the good intentions of the party and state of the DPRK but also reaffirms the DPRK's great efforts to the cause of peacefully reunifying Korea. In the past, as in 1986, the DPRK advanced a number of proposals aimed at achieving peace and stability for the Korean peninsula and the region as a whole. But those initiatives and proposals received no proper response due to the warmongering and militarist policy of the Washington ruling circles toward the region.

As everyone knows, with the ambition to fulfill its military alliance among Washington, Tokyo, and Seoul to protect its neocolonialist interests in this region, the United States has consolidated and reinforced its troops in various military bases, for example in South Korea. This clearly shows its warmongering nature. At present, the U.S. forces stationed in South Korea number more than 40,000 men armed with modern weapons and war supplies, including nuclear warheads and missiles. According to Western reports, the United States and South Korea, which have staged bigger and larger joint military exercises with more men and modern weapons for several years, will stage another joint military exercise next month. The preparations to stage this military exercise not only undermine a favorable atmosphere for holding negotiations to settle the problems in the region through peaceful means but also pose a direct threat to the efforts and aspirations of the Korean people to attain peace and stability for the region.

Of course, in face of such a development, peace-loving people in the region and throughout the world cannot stand idly by. That is why the struggle by the South Korean people for democracy and against the threat of the U.S. bases and weapons in the Korean peninsula has received increasingly extensive support from the people the world over, thus contributing to the common struggle of the Korean people for national reunification.

The Lao people of all tribes support the Korean people's struggle for national reunification and call on the U.S. Administration and South Korea to respond positively to the DPRK proposal so as to resolve the urgent issues in advancing step by step peacefully to reunify Korea for the just and correct interests of the Korean people and for peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula, Asia, and the world.

PARTY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM POLAND 27 JAN

BK281037 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Vientiane, January 28 (KPL) -- A delegation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party led by Somlat Chanthamat, secretary of the KPRP, returned here on January 27 after attending the conference of the secretariats of the parties of the socialist countries which was held in Warsaw on January 22-23.

The delegation was welcomed at Wattai Airport by Choummali Sai-gnason, alternate member of the Politburo of the LPRP CC and deputy-minister of national defence, and other high ranking officials.

Marian Fronczek, and Yuriy Mikheyev, respectively extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassadors of the People's Republic of Poland and of the USSR, were also on hand.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ON SRV BORDER PROVOCATIONS

BK010932 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] The Foreign Ministry reported on the violations of Thailand's sovereignty by Vietnamese troops during the period from 1 to 21 January as follows:

On 1 January, Vietnamese troops fired seven mortar rounds into Sa Malaeng Phu village in Muang District, Trat Province.

On 2 January, a number of Vietnamese troops intruded into Thai territory at Sanlo Cha-ngan village in Ta Phraya District, Prachin Buri Province, where they used 12.7-mm anti-aircraft guns to fire at a Thai L-19 plane while it was flying a reconnaissance mission inside Thai territory about 1 km from the border. The plane crashed before the pilot could land at Watthana Nakhon Airport. The pilot dies and the mechanic was seriously injured.

On 5 January, at about 2015, a number of Vietnamese troops sniped at a ranger base at Chamrak village in Muang District, Trat Province, for about 40 minutes.

On 7 January, some 100 shells fired by Vietnamese troops landed at Phra Phalai border pass in Kantharalak District, Sisaket Province.

On 9 January, Vietnamese troops fired about 18 105-mm artillery shells into the vicinity of Khao Pik in Pong Nam Ron District, Chanthaburi Province.

On 10 January, Vietnamese troops fired 56 155-, 130-, 105-mm artillery shells into Khlong Yai, Nong Bon, Ban Na, Marum, Takhur, and Siamchap villages of Phong Nam Ron District, Chanthaburi Province, wounding four head of cattle, damaging a building of Si Maharacha Construction Company and high-power transmission lines of Siamchap village.

On 11 January, Vietnamese troops fired 71 82-mm mortar rounds into Thai territory at Non-ao border pass in Kantharalak District, Sisaket Province.

On 12 January, Vietnamese troops fired 30 mortar shells into Thai territory into the vicinity of Khao Chong Dap in Muang District, Trat Province.

On 15 January, at about 0115, about 50 Vietnamese soldiers intruded into the vicinity of Khao Yai village in Na Chaloei District, Ubon Ratchathani Province and launched a 2-hour attack on the ranger base, wounding three soldiers and rangers.

On 17 January, Vietnamese troops fired four 120-mm mortar shells into the area of Khlong Prathum village in Muang District, Trat Province. One house was damaged. Vietnamese troops also fired 26 shells into Phak Kat and Nong Kok villages in Pong Nam Ron District.

On 19 January, Vietnamese troops ambushed a Thai Marine patrol team at Hat Lek village in Khlong Yai District, Trat Province, seriously wounding two Marines.

On 20 January, Vietnamese troops fired 21 85-mm and 122-mm artillery shells into Thai territory at Sua Mop Hill, Pa Wilai village, Pa Thep temple, Nam Sap village. Five houses and high-power transmission lines were damaged.

On 21 January, at 1540, 50 Vietnamese troops occupied Hills 408, 382, and 396 and attacked a Thai infantry outpost 30 km northeast of Bok border pass in Nam Yun District, Ubon Ratchathani Province, with artillery and mortar support from their bases inside Cambodia. A Thai soldier was killed and two others wounded.

AT 1650, Vietnamese troops fired five shells into Ban Kho village in Tambon Kom Pradit of Nam Yun District. A number of domestic animals were killed and houses damaged.

ARMY CHIEF ON BORDER VISIT, SRV INTRUDERS

BK310110 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 Jan 87 p 2

[Text] Soldiers will soon dislodge Vietnamese intruders who have taken position in the rugged Thai border area of Ubon Ratchathani, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchayut said yesterday.

Chawalit said, after his three-day visit to the Thai-Kampuchean border that a small unit of Vietnamese soldiers has intruded into Thailand and still remains in the rugged terrain in Nam Yun District.

He said he has ordered Suranari Force, which is responsible for border defence in the northerneastern region, to despatch its troops to push the Vietnamese back into Kampuchea. He said the soldiers will also construct a road into the area where a military position will be established to prevent future incursions.

"The army will carry out the operation and undertake a development project soon to help the people in the area," he said.

Chawalit said Vietnamese force in Kampuchea have frequently sent their troops across the border into the Thai territory in Ubon Ratchathani since the rugged terrain provides them with several ideal hideouts.

Fighting between Hanoi's soldiers and Kampuchean resistance guerrillas has frequently spilled over into the Thai territory at Chong Bok border units to return artillery fire in case the Vietnamese gunners in Kampuchea shell Thai positions.

He said that local officials will not evacuate villagers in the nearby area during the operation since they are willing to help the soldiers in searching the intruders.

The commander-in-chief said Vietnamese artillery shells have frequently landed in the Thai villages of Non Sung Chalae and Kiao close to the frontier. However, villagers in the area still insist to remain in their villages.

The Vietnamese troops had earlier made several incursions into the Thai border area in pursuit of the Kampuchean guerrillas but were repelled by the Thai soldiers.

ENVOY TO SRV ON 'OBSTACLES' IN FISHERMEN CASE

BK310948 Bangkok Television Service in Thai 1300 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Speaking on the uneven relations between Thailand and Vietnam, in particular the imprisonment of Thai fishermen, Chuchai Kasemsan, Thai ambassador to Vietnam, told correspondents of the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand today that the Thai Embassy in Hanoi has been trying to approach the Vietnamese authorities to help the Thai fishermen, but faces many obstacles because Vietnam does not want to facilitate meetings with our fishermen and even our travel from the capital to the places where the Thai fishermen are being detained. He said:

[Begin recording] I raised two points. First, the Vietnamese authorities are requested not to treat our people as they did in the past. As an example, the 466 fishermen who were recently released, I pointed out that some of them were jailed as long as 6 years. I also stressed that no country in the world would do such a thing. Meanwhile, we will see to it that this sort of thing will not happen again. I informed them rather solemnly that the Vietnamese authorities should try to arrange a meeting with Thai nationals for Thai officials whenever a request is made by our embassy. We had a lot of problems before we were able to meet the eight fishermen in Ho Chi Minh City, instead of the place where they were imprisoned. This problem will continue to exist. We must try to solve the problem at home, and the Vietnamese must change the way they treat our people. We hope that they will treat our people better. [end recording]

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN ON COUNTERTRADE WITH SERV

BK310102 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 Jan 87 p 5

[Text] The Foreign Ministry yesterday said that Thailand is not against having countertrade or barter trade with Vietnam if it serves the Thai economic needs.

Saro Chawanawirat, the Foreign Ministry's spokesman, said that the countertrade and barter trade systems are less flexible than the normal trade. "Thailand does not object to this kind of trade with Vietnam if it benefits the Thai economy and serves the Thai consumer," the spokesman said.

His response came after a group of Vietnamese trade representatives from Ho Chi Minh City signed an aide memoire with a system in an exchange of Vietnamese marine products for Thai rice.

Sarot added that the Thai Government does not support any form of economic assistance of granting of credit that could directly or indirectly enhance the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea. Thailand opposes technological transfer to Vietnam as long as Vietnamese troops are still inside Kampuchea.

Most of the direct trade between Thailand and Vietnam is in the hand of private sector, he said.

It is Thai Government's policy not to either support or encourage trade with Vietnam.

During the Kriangsak Government, the government offered US\$100 million worth of credit as an incentive to Vietnam but it was later annulled after the Vietnamese troops attacked Non Mak Mun, Ta Phrayu District in 1978-79.

Meanwhile, Chuchai Kasemsan, the new Thai ambassador to Hanoi, said that there was nothing new emerging from the Sixth Party Congress held in Hanoi recently concerning ways to settle the Kampuchean problem.

He said there are about 19 Thai fishermen being imprisoned by Vietnam in addition to the 70 crewmen who were arrested by Hanoi recently.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, he said, is ready to meet Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach if he has something that will contribute to a political solution to the Kampuchean problem.

LAO ENVOY SAYS SRV TROOPS NO THREAT TO THAILAND

BK310150 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Jan 87 p 3

[Text] The upcoming visit of Laotian Deputy Foreign Minister Soubanh Srithirat is an important one which is expected to produce results beneficial to both sides, Laotian Ambassador Khamphan Simmalavong said yesterday.

Answering questions after a speech at the Imperial Hotel as a guest of the International Understanding Programme, the ambassador said that the main issue of talks during Mr Soubanh's visit would be the normalisation and improvement of relations between the two countries.

If relations can be normalised and strengthened, he said the prospect of improvement in other areas, such as cultural, trade and technical cooperation, would follow.

"Laos is ready and willing to have good friendship with Thailand," said Mr Khamphan, adding that Laos was cautious in sending a delegation here because it didn't want the visit to end up without any result that would benefit the two countries.

Commenting on the war reserve stockpile agreement Thailand entered with the United States, the Laotian ambassador said he regards the stockpile in Thailand as inconducive to peace and security in the region.

"One day, sooner or later, the stockpile will be used which will not contribute to the promotion of peace," said the envoys who, nevertheless, suggested that Thailand sign a non-aggression pact with Laos.

Similar suggestions by Laos and Vietnam were earlier rejected by Thailand. Thailand has said the war reserve stockpile is meant for her defence.

Asked about the presence of some 50,000 Vietnamese troops in Laos, Mr Khamphan insisted that the presence of Vietnamese soldiers, most of them positioned in northern Laos close to the Chinese border, was not a security threat to Thailand.

He said Laos and Vietnam had a joint military cooperation treaty which clearly specifies the role and scope of activities of the Vietnamese troops in Laos.

When the threat against Laos is removed, Laos is empowered to ask the Vietnamese forces to pull out, he said.

OFFICIAL REJECTS KHUN SA'S OPIUM OUTPUT CLAIM

BK290159 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] Opium warlord Khun Sa's claim that about 900 tons of opium could be produced on the Burmese side of the Golden Triangle this year were rejected yesterday.

Narcotics Control Board secretary-general Pol Maj-Gen Chawalit Yotmani said Khun Sa's claim was little more than exaggeration and propaganda.

"It is not possible," said Maj-Gen Chawalit. A vast tract of land would be needed for the cultivation of enough plants to meet Khun Sa's target, he said.

Opium output on Thai territory this year would not exceed 10 tons because of crop substitution efforts and concerted eradication campaigns, and because the cultivation area had been cut to 10,000 rai, said Maj-Gen Chawalit.

An agreement will be signed today under which the United States will grant \$2.7 million to crop substitution and law enforcement programmes in Thailand.

Maj-Gen Chawalit said most of the drugs which found their way on the world market came from Burmese territory controlled by the Burma Communist Party, the Shans and other rebel groups.

Meanwhile the Burmese government daily VANGUARD said yesterday the Burma Communist Party is smuggling opium and jade to obtain funds for firearms and medical supplies.

It said the decision by the rebels to smuggle opium and jade was part of a three-year economic plan adopted at a party congress held last year at Panghsang on the Chinese border.

It said the insurgent group took to smuggling after the Chinese Communist Party suspended aid to the rebels.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO MALDIVES -- Whereas his majesty's government has proposed to the Government of the Republic of Maldives the appointment of Mrs Khachon Sophon as his majesty's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Maldives to succeed Mr Anan Suwannawihok, the Government of the Republic of Maldives has duly given agreement to the said appointment. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 29 Jan 87 BK]

CHAT THAI PARTY LEADERS -- The Chat Thai Party reelected Major General Chatchai Chunhawan as party leader and Banhan Sinlapa-acha as party secretary general at the party's general meeting held on 30 January. The meeting also elected Sa-at Piyawan, Bun-ua Prasoetsuwan, Pramuan Saphawasu, Thawit Klinprathum, Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri, and Prathuan Rommayanon as deputy leaders; and Pancha Kesonthong, Udomsak Thangthong, Suchon Champhunut, and Aram Lowira as deputy secretaries general. A new executive committee comprising 21 MP's and 12 other party members were also elected on the occasion. [Summary] [Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 31 Jan 87 pp 6, 12 BK]

CAMBODIAN REFUGEE FIGURES -- The Supreme Command Information Office has reported that during the week from 16 to 22 January, a total number of 272,240 Cambodian refugees and illegal immigrants took refuge along the Thai-Cambodian border: 64,684 of whom lived in Sisaket and Surin Provinces; 169,588 in Prachin Buri Province -- 138,823 at Site II in Ta Praya District, and 30,765 at Site VIII in Khlong Hat subdistrict; and 38,068 in Chanthaburi and Trat Provinces. [all figures as published] [Summary] [Bangkok NAEON in Thai 1 Feb 87 p 16 BK]

TRADE WITH PRC -- Thailand and China have signed a memorandum of understanding to boost trade between the two countries. The memorandum was signed in Bangkok by the director of the Public Warehouse Organization and the head of the economic and industry delegation from Sichuan Province, China, during the delegation's recent visit to Thailand. Sichuan would like to sell Thailand oil, phosphorus liquid, sodium sulfide, raw silk, steel, metal construction material, and agricultural machinery. Thailand has offered to the Chinese delegation rice, maize, natural rubber, tobacco, and fishmeal. [Summary] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 18 Jan 87 BK]

NHAN DAN COMMENTS ON STATE OF UNION SPEECH

OW011647 Hanoi VNA in English 1503 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 1 -- "Dark clouds continue to hang over the Reagan administration", observes a commentator of the daily NHAN DAN today in connection with the January 27 state of the union message of U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

The paper goes on: "The seven-page message has brought nothing new. The U.S. President has failed to propose any solution to the burning socioeconomic problems that are plaguing America. Neither has it brought any new initiatives on nuclear and spatial [as received] disarmament, the foremost concern of the American and world people at present. On the contrary, the message has only spelt out the embarrassment of the Reagan administration in face of unprecedented difficulties which are sure to last throughout the remaining two years of Mr. Reagan's tenure".

NHAN DAN further notes that the opposition will undoubtedly continue to make the most of these difficulties of Reagan and his Republican Party in the coming race into the White House.

"In the new year, Reagan hopes that his message would help him dissipate the dark clouds that are gathering over his political career."

However, as THE WASHINGTON POST has rightly commented, "As of now the presidential term of Reagan can already be considered dead", NHAN DAN says in conclusion.

DO MUOI DECORATED BY SOVIET CHARGE D'AFFAIRES

BK011228 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Comrade Do Muoi, member of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, on 31 January 1987 received Comrade (Unitskiy), Soviet charge d'affaires in Vietnam.

As directed by the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Council of Ministers, Comrade (Unitskiy) said that the Supreme Soviet Presidium has decided to award Comrade Do Muoi, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, the Order of the October Revolution for his great contributions to consolidating the great Vietnamese-Soviet friendship and on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

MAI CHI THO PAYS TET VISIT TO DUTY SECURITY UNIT

BK310550 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] In celebration of Tet, the Year of the Cat, Comrade Mai Chi Tho, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and first vice minister of interior, on the morning of 28 January called on and offered Tet greetings to a unit of the People's Public Security Forces which was on combat alert duty. In a cordial and festive mood of the new spring, Comrade Mai Chi Tho solicitously inquired about the personnel's work, the living conditions of their families, and the unit's preparations for celebrating Tet. He expressed deep understanding of the lofty duty of security cadres and combatants to ensure safety and happiness for the people's life which keeps them temporarily away from their families during the Tet holidays.

After offering his Tet greetings, Comrade Mai Chi Tho urged the leading comrades to attentively care for the material and spiritual life of security personnel and improve their professional expertise.

He said: Entering the year 1987, though life is still beset with hardships, difficulties, and privations, the People's Public Security Forces -- with their traditions of respect for moral values, contempt for material riches, and defiance of death, and in light of the Sixth CPV Congress resolution -- are filled with a new source of confidence and a new determination to score new successes.

On behalf of the unit, Comrade Colonel (Nguyen Van Thinh), director of the security service, thanked the party and Comrade Mai Chi Tho for their profound concern and care toward cadres and combatants of the security forces. He pledged to put Comrade Mai Chi Tho's instructions into practice.

Also on the occasion of Tet, the Year of the Cat, Comrade Mai Chi Tho called on and offered Tet greetings to the families of Comrades (Nghiem Quang Vinh) and (Hoang Lac) at the Ministry of Interior's Collective Housing Complex. He conveyed the regards and Tet greetings of the Ministry of Interior leadership to families of security cadres and combatants and hoped that all echelons of the People's Public Security Forces will pay attention to caring for the life of cadres and combatants, especially those facing serious difficulties.

ENVOY TO PRK VISITS VOLUNTEERS IN PHNOM PENH

BK291010 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] On the occasion of Tet, the Year of the Cat, on 28 January our ambassador to Cambodia, Ngo Dien, and the military attache at our embassy, Colonel (Vu Lac), together with the leaders of the group of Vietnamese experts in that country, visited and laid a wreath at the Vietnamese internationalist fighters' memorial in Phnom Penh. They also visited the Pochentong cemetery and the 122d and 116th military hospitals of Vietnamese army volunteers in the city.

Ambassador Ngo Dien, Colonel (Vu Lac), and the leaders of the group of experts from our country cordially chatted with and presented gifts to wounded and ailing soldiers at the 122d and 116th military hospitals. On the occasion of the New Year, they wished the wounded and ailing soldiers a quick recovery so that they could return to their units.

On this occasion, our embassy and the group of our experts in Cambodia also organized many activities in celebration of Tet, the Year of the Cat.

VNA REVIEWS GROWTH OF CAMBODIAN ARMOR BATTALION

OW011646 Hanoi VNA in English 1451 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 1 -- Founded not long after liberation from the Pol Pot regime in 1979, the battalion was at first undermanned and underequipped. Even so it immediately took part in mopping up Pol Pot remnants. Training started at the same time, with many difficulties -- lack of experience, facilities and, most seriously of competent installors. But all this was gradually overcome with the assistance of Vietnamese army volunteers.

The unit is now in full strength. It has trained more than 100 drivers, many of whom took part in driving the enemy from Phnom Melai and Prampikhnoong during the 1984-85 dry season campaign on the northwestern border.

Many of the men who joined the battalion back in 1979 are now instructors. One of them is Suon Dong, the top graduate of the second course. With his own experience and the assistance of Vietnamese experts, this young man from Kandal Province has contributed much to the compilation of manuals.

At Sarat, the 30-year-old commander of the unit, was put into a prison in his home province of Takeo by the Pol Potists. Upon hearing about the killing of his father, brothers, and sister, he escaped back to his commune. But he was arrested again and deported to Kompong Speu where he was forced to work 20 hours a day. Then he was rescued by Vietnam army volunteers and taken to Vietnam for medical treatment. He volunteered for the Kampuchea army and took part in hunting down Pol Potists. Then he was sent abroad for training and thus became one of the first tank drivers. He was made chief of the battalion staff at 28.

Besides training, the officers and men engage in food production to improve their fare. They keep about 1,000 chickens, dozens of pigs, cows and horses, and hundreds of goats and ducks. Every year they produce about five tons of rice and three tons of palm sugar.

The battalion has forged very good public relations. It provides medical assistance to villagers and involves them in sports and cultural activities. In return the people have effectively assisted the battalion in tracking down die-hard enemies and in bringing in misled Khmers back to the fold.

With its good record in self-building and fighting, armoured battalion 86 is the fourth best unit in an emulation drive currently involving all the armed forces of Kampuchea.

HANOI VIEWS COOPERATION WITH LAOS, CAMBODIA

BK301047 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Jan 87

["Article" by Dao Nguyen: "On the Threshold of the New Year -- the Issue Involving the Strength of the Three Countries on the Indochinese Peninsula"]

[Text] To our three countries on the Indochinese peninsula, building and defending the fatherland remain two inseparable strategic tasks. These tasks are inseparable in each country, as they are the common stand of all three nations in their journey to the future. The desire to make each nation more prosperous and powerful is the basis of the solidarity and comprehensive cooperation and friendship among our three countries, which were marked by the signing of and embarkation on five major economic, scientific-technological, and cultural programs in the spring of 1986. This did not come about as a coincidence but was the result of careful consideration based on scientific analyses and on the special characteristics as well as the short- and long-term requirements of each country, and was aimed at concentrating efforts on resolving the fundamental issues facing Laos and Cambodia -- namely, grain and food, industrial development, production of consumer goods and export items, forest preservation, mineral exploitation, basic survey, exploitation of the Mekong's water resources, training of cadres and workers, public health, and cultural services.

These five programs for cooperation among the three countries, which resemble five large flowers unfolding their colorful petals, have been and are being carried out with our intellect and our lofty proletarian internationalist responsibility.

We have yet to escape from material poverty, but we are second to none as regards revolutionary ardor and willpower with which to level all obstacles and bring happiness to 70 million people who are living and welcoming the new spring in the three countries on the Indochinese peninsula.

A year is only a fleeting period of time. Success is still a long way off, and only initial results have been recorded. But all this has engendered much interest. In 1986, our Lao friends produced 1.47 million metric tons of grain, achieving an average grain output of 400 kg per capita; they made rapid progress in basically meeting the food demand. With the passenger boats jointly built by the two countries, the river routes linking Vientiane with the northern provinces of Laos have been opened, gladdening the hearts of people in the land of a million elephants as spring comes and the traditional New Year -- Boun Pimai -- is approaching.

Along with sharing our Lao friends' joy, we congratulate our Cambodian friends for producing more than 2 million metric tons of grain and over 2 million heads of cattle last year. Our friends also either fulfilled or overfulfilled the plan norms in rubber production, freshwater fish raising, and timber production -- their spearhead economic sectors -- set for last year, which was also the 1st year for implementing the fifth KPRP Congress resolution. These are the good tidings of spring that further embellish the appearance of the Land of Angkor as it enters the 11th spring of its revival.

These initial achievements are inseparable from the efforts of each nation and from the increasingly effective cooperation among our three countries; nor can they be dissociated from the bilateral and multilateral assistance and cooperation given by the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and friends of our three countries all over the world in 1986. It was thanks to the assistance and cooperation of our friends that the three countries on the Indochinese peninsula -- once the scene of bloody battles of the fiercest war in the history of the world since World War II -- acquired a new source of strength in 1986 so that we can embark on the Year of the Cat with new promise.

Solidarity means strength. This is a simple but profound truism. This truism became even more real in 1986 in the revolutionary awareness and action of each of our parties and nations. The reactionary forces themselves clearly realize that to crush the Indochinese peoples they must destroy at all costs the solidarity bloc of the three countries on the peninsula. For this very reason, the hostile forces last year spared no efforts to continue their encirclement, all-round sabotage, and offensive against us from all directions and at all times, combining wooing maneuvers with attempts to divide the three countries and alienate them from the Soviet Union, the socialist community, and our friends in the world.

But the more perfidious the enemy, the more untied our three countries will remain, and the more we will strengthen our solidarity with the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and friends near and far. Last year, the factor of solidarity gave added strength to the three countries on the peninsula, enabling them to defend their homelands firmly and defeat the enemy on the northern and southwestern fronts of the peninsula.

Unable to beat us with guns and bullets, the hostile forces wearing the false mantle of peace and friendship pulled the trick of entering into bilateral negotiations with our Lao friends to realize their divide-and-rule policy.

There is no need to use the force of the magic mirror of Sun Wuqung [a legendary Chinese wizard]. We can still tell immediately that this is the trick of closing all doors and sniping at the bloc of the Indochinese people's solidarity.

To break up the encirclement by hostile forces, we hold up aspirations for peace and friendship with the Chinese people, neighboring countries, and other countries in the world. The meetings of the party general secretaries of the three countries and of their meetings with the CPSU general secretary, as well as the meeting of the three countries' foreign ministers in 1986, have further brightened the stand and goodwill of our three countries toward the most important issue of the era, which is war or peace.

Supporting the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and other countries, our three countries have emphasized the goal of restoring peace, security, and stability in Southeast Asia to persistently put forth peace initiatives to the ASEAN countries and China on the basis of dialogue or confrontation among the various countries or between the blocs of Indochinese countries and of the ASEAN countries and China. This stand and goodwill of the three countries in 1986, which is like the fragrance of a spring flower, permeates the encircling wall of distortion by the hostile forces. It has gradually reached the countries inside and outside the region and has been welcomed by them, though at different levels.

With friendly hearts, our three countries last year continued to open wide the doors of their houses of peace and friendship to receive friends, both near and far. Their attitude of self-confidence and just cause is more persuasive than any fabrication or smear by hostile forces.

Although they are aware of countless difficulties in each of our countries, our friends also see the illumination of our collective intelligence. That is the vigorous new thinking and the renovative spirit of bravely and squarely looking at facts, which prevailed at the Sixth CPU Congress and the Fourth LPRP Congress.

This is one of the bases allowing our friends to strongly believe in the present success of each country on the Indochinese peninsula and to affirm the truth that the three countries on this peninsula have never been exhausted -- as is daily claimed by the hostile forces. Once again, our friends can see with their own eyes that the situation in Cambodia is irreversible, and as French journalist (Daniel Rachat), member of a group of international newsmen who have just returned from a visit to various areas in Cambodia, put it: The Cambodian people are living in peace and happiness.

Mrs (Rodney), an American and head of the delegation of the U.S. Committee for Solidarity With Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia which visited Cambodia in late 1986, said: Thank you, friends, for your truthful statements. We are all the more deeply moved when we can see that you have taken upon yourselves the responsibility for helping the Cambodian people in such a way. When we return home, the first thing we will do is to try to make the American people of all strata clearly see the truth about Cambodia and to tell him what the Cambodian people are doing and how they are building their country. The most important thing is to make the American people understand why they must demand that their government stop its support for the genocidal Pol Pot clique.

Although our friends have different ways of doing and saying things, they all believe and support the three countries on the Indochinese peninsula and pledge to do all they can to contribute to the peace and independence of these countries.

On this early spring day, we would like to announce further good news -- that the World Geology Map Committee, an international organization, has just recognized and accepted the PRK as a new member. It has also invited our Cambodian friends to participate in its international meeting to be held in Paris, France, from 9 to 12 February. This is a new success that not only further clarifies the just cause of Cambodia in the international arena but also manifests the will and strength of the revolution of the three countries on the Indochinese peninsula, which are becoming increasingly strong when we enter the new spring today.

Spring is a source of new strength. Let us therefore, assess and affirm the achievements we have recorded last year in order to welcome the new year and advance with confidence and great enthusiasm.

Hand in hand, let our three nations further develop the finest successes of the old year in order to bring about greater happiness for the people of each country on our beloved Indochinese peninsula in the Year of the Cat.

EDUCATION MINISTER ATTENDS AUSTRALIA DAY FETE

OW310801 Hanoi VNA in English 0716 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 31 -- Australian Ambassador I.S. Lincoln has given here a reception in honour of the Australian day.

Among the Vietnamese guests were Nguyen Dinh Tu, minister of secondary vocational and higher education, Nguyen Dy Nien, assistant to foreign minister, and other officials.

Minister Nguyen Dinh Tu and Ambassador I.S. Lincoln proposed toasts to the further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Australia.

PEACE COMMITTEE PRESIDENT RECEIVES WPC MEDAL

OW310809 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 31 -- The World Peace Council has decided to confer the "Frideric Joliot-Durie" gold medal, its highest distinction, on lawyer Phan Anh, president of the Vietnam Peace Committee and vice president of the WPC. This was made public by Romesh Chandra, president of the WPC, at a meeting of the WPC Executive Committee held in Lisbon, Portugal, recently.

The WPC also decided to send a high-level WPC delegation to Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in 1987 to express its solidarity with and support for the three Indochinese countries.

MOKHTAR RETURNS FROM ASEAN-JAPAN MEETING

BK011539 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja believes that there is at present a new consciousness in Japan to use their foreign trade surplus to help the (?economies) of developing countries. Foreign Minister Mokhtar said this upon arrival at Jakarta's Sukarno-Hatta International Airport this afternoon from Tokyo where he attended an ASEAN-Japan meeting. The meeting was organized by the Japanese Institute for International Affairs. The Indonesian foreign minister presented a working paper to the meeting after attending the Islamic Conference Organization summit meeting in Kuwait. [passage indistinct] During the visit to Japan, Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja also held talks with his counterpart, Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari.

FINANCE MINISTER ON FOREIGN DEBT REPAYMENT

BK311429 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Finance Minister Radius Prawiro said the government has no plans to reschedule its foreign debt payments because in doing so it would bring about greater problems such as mistrust by foreign countries toward Indonesia as well as an adverse effect on foreign economic relations in the future. Minister Prawiro made the statement in Jakarta this morning during a hearing session in Parliament which was presided over by Harjanto Sumodisasto.

Regarding the oil prices which could impact the national budget, Finance Minister Prawiro clarified that although the recent oil prices increased to \$15 per barrel, the government believes that the increase excess will be utilized in the 1987-88 state budget programs. On taxation, Minister Prawiro explained that the government's intention in conducting criminal investigations into tax offenses is just to carry out the laws.

VICE PRESIDENT, DELEGATION RETURN FROM KUWAIT

BK301533 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Vice President Wirahadikusumah, upon his arrival in Jakarta this morning after attending the Fifth ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] summit in Kuwait from 26 to 29 January, said he believed the conference was successfully carried out even though there were differences of opinion and interests by some delegations. The vice president led the Indonesian delegation to the Fifth ICO summit conference.

He said the Kuwait summit conference accepted a resolution which requested members of the organizing committee concerning functions of the delegations headed by Indonesians to continue its responsibility of preparing recommendations for the upcoming 17th ICO ministerial-level conference. The conference, which was attended by 44 member-nations, agreed to call the summit conference a high-level Islamic solidarity conference.

During the conference, several political, economic, financial, and sociocultural issues were discussed. Among the major political issues discussed were the Mideast, Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, the Chad-Libya conflict, and international terrorism. Discussions on general economic cooperation were carried out smoothly, while educational and technological cooperation also made certain progress, even though there were certain delegations who remained doubtful.

MALAYSIAMAHATHIR TERMS TALKS WITH GANDHI 'SUCCESS'

BK011409 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1350 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 1 (OANA-BERNAMA) -- Malaysia has an opportunity to collaborate with India in the manufacture of automobile components, Dr Mahathir Mohamed said today. The Malaysian prime minister said the possibility of such a joint venture resulted from his discussions with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi during his visit to India.

India had the capability to produce several automotive component parts, some of which were exported to the United States, Dr Mahathir told reporters on arrival at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport here after attending the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit in Kuwait and making a four-day visit to India.

In view of this, there was avenue for the automobile industries of the two countries to have a joint venture in this area. The prime minister said the Malaysian national car, Proton Saga, was not directly discussed with Gandhi but was mentioned in their talks on the automobile industry. He said that like Malaysia, India too cooperated with Japan in the automobile industry and had a policy to produce its own cars for domestic use except for cars for use by diplomats.

On trade relations between the two countries, he said Malaysia would find means of importing more from India including having joint ventures with that country to narrow their trade imbalance currently in Malaysia's favour. Trade between both nations had been increasing the past several years, especially on the part of Malaysia which was exporting large amounts of palm oil to India as its primary export to that country.

On Malaysia agreeing to give assistance to the South African Solidarity Fund chaired by Gandhi, Dr Mahathir said he would discuss the form of aid to be given with the cabinet.

He also said India, apart from contributing U.S. \$400,000 to the South-South Commission, had also offered to provide the services of an economics specialist for the commission. The prime minister said selection of the commission's committee members depended on the decision of its chairman Dr Julius Nyerere.

He described his visit to India as a success, saying he had the opportunity to meet several other Indian leaders and visit an exposition of Indian industrial products.

On India-Pakistan relations, Dr Mahathir believed the relations would improve in view of initiation of talks between their leaders.

The prime minister had also conveyed a message from Pakistani President Ziaul Haq to Gandhi. He said the message, among other things, stressed that Pakistan had no "evil intention" towards India.

MAHATHIR ON ISLAMIC CONFERENCE SUMMIT IN KUWAIT

BK011341 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1325 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 1 (OANA-BERNAMA) -- Dr Mahathir Mohamed considers the recent Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit a success despite the lack of progress in resolving the Iran-Iraq war.

The Malaysian prime minister said today the important thing was that the summit enabled many of the OIC leaders, both the heads of state and government, to gather together in one place despite some said to have differing points of views. Such a gathering could create a healthy discipline among OIC member nations, he told reporters on arrival at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport on his return home from the OIC summit in Kuwait and a four-day visit of India.

The prime minister said the summit was also fruitful in that it enabled the leaders to re-establish contact in efforts to resolve problems among them.

He said that in his view, Malaysia had achieved success at the summit when the drug and Antarctica issues it sponsored were supported by the OIC. Dr Mahathir said all OIC member nations agreed to give (?serious attention) to the drug problem with the action to be taken to include Malaysia's anti-narcotics measures.

The OIC member nations expressed their support for Malaysia's stand that Antarctica be made the common heritage of mankind, saying this showed an increasing number of countries were also seriously concerned about the issue, apart from Malaysia.

The prime minister said he conveyed Malaysia's full support for the stand adopted by Islamic nations on several issues when he addressed the summit. Malaysia also expressed its dissatisfaction that there were still many disputes among certain OIC member nations.

He explained that he was unable to attend the summit's closing because he had to leave for India.

DEPUTY PREMIER ON 'CHANGING' COMMUNIST STRUGGLE

BK291045 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 21 Jan 87 p 3

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Ghafar Baba, said the communist struggle in the country has now changed to banditry, which is depriving people of a peaceful life. He said that recently the communist terrorist movements in the country have been weakening, adding, "Even though there are still communist remnants, they are only to be found along the Thai and Indonesian borders."

Speaking at a meeting with Baling District Barisan Nasional members at the Tun Abdul Razak Hall yesterday [20 January], Mr Ghafar Baba said that due to their weakening, the communist terrorists are currently changing their struggle and forming bandit bands to deprive people of a peaceful life. He said, however, that the government will continuously stand up against those bands even though they change their "uniform" to that of bandits. Mr Ghafar Baba said that success in the struggle against the communist terrorists from the time before the country achieved its independence until the present moment had depended on the people's awareness and support.

He expressed confidence that as long as people understand the government's policies, which have been implemented for their benefit, they will not be bothered by the communists' activities. He said, "We are thankful to God Almighty that we have been able to overcome these communist atrocities for all this time."

DRAFT CONSTITUTION PLEBISCITE HELD 2 FEB

'Heavy' Voter Turnout Reported

HK020902 Hong Kong AFP in English 0848 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Manilla, Feb 2 (AFP) -- Millions of Filipinos flocked to the polls Monday to vote for or against a new draft constitution viewed as a critical test of public confidence in the Aquino government.

Polling places closed at 3:00 p.m. (0700 GMT) and reports from correspondents and the official Commission on Elections (Comelec) indicated that turnout was heavy at the 87,000 electoral precincts across the country.

On the southern island of Mindanao, local radio reported that armed men had occupied a university in Marawi City, and a school on Cotabato City received threats from alleged Moslem separatists that it would be burned and bombed.

A military spokesman said after the voting ended that three soldiers were wounded when an undetermined number of communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels fired on troops guarding a voting precinct at Calungon, in southern Mindanao.

In another incident, troops secured three mountain villages in northern Mindanao following the evacuation of some 500 residents after armed anti-Communist "religious fanatics" threatened to disrupt polling, the official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) reported.

Long lines were seen at voting centers here throughout the day with only a few scattered incidents reported elsewhere, mostly complaints about the slow pace of voting in some areas or the failure of ballot boxes to arrive.

Police said several dozen people had been arrested, almost all of them for violating a ban on the sale or public consumption of liquor.

The armed forces remained on "red alert" footing throughout the day and at least 79 battalions of troops were put on stand-by to deal with any eventual incidents, military spokesmen and elections officials said.

President Corazon Aquino, accompanied by her immediate family, cast her ballot on the constitution which would allow her to remain in power until 1992 in her home province of Tarlac, north of Manila.

Election officials said that an indication of whether the draft charter was ratified or rejected is expected to be available late Monday.

Ramon Felipe, the chairman of Comelec, the government's election watchdog body, predicted shortly before the close of voting that 90 percent of the estimated 25 million eligible voters would cast their ballots.

He said no violence had been reported and that the only unusual incident Comelec knew of was the failure of ballots to reach 24 precincts because Navy boats charged with delivering the forms had engine trouble.

As people lined up to cast their ballots Monday, the armed forces called off a search by more than 1,000 government troops for an alleged group of some rebel soldiers who participated in an abortive mutiny last week.

Colonel Honesto Isleta, a military spokesman, said the search in the Sierra Mountains north of here was abandoned after the rebels "seemed to vanish." [passage omitted]

9 Killed During Mindanao Voting

HK021204 Hong Kong AFP in English 1202 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Davao, Philippines, Feb 2 (AFP) -- Nine people were killed Monday in attacks by communist guerrillas on polling centers and other targets on the southern island of Mindanao, military officials said here.

The New People's Army (NPA) launched the raids in a bid to disrupt Monday's nationwide plebiscite for the ratification of a proposed constitution, regional military chief Brigadier-General Romeo Recina told reporters.

He said the first incident occurred an hour after the polling centers opened at 7 a.m. (2300 GMT Sunday), when some 100 NPA rebels attacked soldiers guarding a voting precinct near Malongon town, in South Cotabato Province.

Five guerrillas were killed and three soldiers wounded in a three-hour firefight, Brig Gen Recina told reporters in this southern Mindanao city.

A government militiaman and his mother were killed 30 minutes after the voting closed when they were ambushed by NPA rebels at a village near Santa Cruz Town, in the southern Mindanao province of Davao del Sur, military spokesman Colonel Douglas Rosete said.

Two guerrillas were killed and three soldiers wounded when the rebels ambushed a group of soldiers escorting ballot boxes from a remote precinct toward the canvassing center in Tambacan Town near Malungon, Col Rosete said.

Initial Results From Quezon City

HK020853 [Editorial report] Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog at 0815 GMT on 2 February carries initial results of plebiscite votes from a number of voting centers in Roces Avenue, Quezon City:

Precinct 364:

Yes: 163
No: 65
Total: 228

Precinct 37, Barrio Aurora:

Yes: 191
No: 72
Total: 264, with one torn ballot

Precinct 372:	Yes: 339
	No: 98
	Total: 438, with one torn ballot
Precinct 371:	Yes: 184
	No: 68
	Total: 252, with one torn ballot
Precinct 368:	Yes: 181
	No: 96
	Total: 277
Precinct 369:	Yes: 157
	No: 68
	Total: 217, with 3 invalid ballots

Metro Manila Favors Charter

0W020853 Tokyo KYODO in English 0851 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, Feb. 2 KYODO -- Almost 80 percent of the electorate in four precincts in Metro Manila voted in favor of the new constitution in Monday's national plebiscite, an independent monitoring organization said.

Manila is a stronghold of President Corazon Aquino, who appointed members of the Constitutional Commission to draft the constitution.

Early returns from the precincts in Metro Manila showed 608 votes (78.9 percent) for and 161 (20.9 percent) against the constitution with two abstentions, according to the organization, the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel).

A Namfrel volunteer said 82.5 percent of the registered voters in the precincts cast their votes before the polling stations closed at 3 p.m. (local time). Voting had started at 7 a.m.

Earlier in the day, Ramon Felipe, head of the Commission on Elections (Comelec), said the nationwide turnout is expected to reach 90 percent. A Namfrel spokesman said, "Nationwide, casting of votes has been peaceful and orderly." The plebiscite is seen as a test to measure Aquino's popularity.

Yes Votes Leading in Paranaque

HK021113 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0950 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] We have Aura Anakan on line 2 for her partial report on results of tabulations in B.F. Homes, Paranaque, Metro Manila. Aura, please come in.

[Begin recording] Good afternoon to our listeners. As of 1655 this afternoon, 16,084 voters cast their votes. We have partial reports of 13,271 for yes and 2,732 for no. This comes from San Isidro, San (Yesta) subdivision, and San Marcelo.

On the other hand, in B.F. Homes, the total voters who cast their votes were 5,262, with 4,405 for yes, 848 for no.

That is the latest report from B.F. subdivisions. The voting has been completed and that is the total vote. [end recording]

District 4 Results Reported

HK021145 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Rudy Santos report]

[Text] Here are our partial results from Manila district 4, from Barangay Santo Nino with 28 precincts. The results are:

Voters: 7,073
Yes: 5,274 or 75 percent
No: 1,787 or 24 percent
Abstentions: 68
Spoiled ballots: 16

We also have here a report that ballot snatching took place at sacred Heart in Kamuning but there is no truth to this report. Along with Rainbow Ally and Rainbow Fortune, we did some investigations. Voting here is peaceful and orderly in Barangay Santo Nino and the entire district 4.

In District 2, we also have a partial list of voting results. The total in Barangay Pag-aso in District 2, the total number of votes cast was 3,913, with yes votes at 2,929 or 75 percent, with no votes were 959 or 25 percent. Spoiled ballots numbered 25.

Stand by for our report on District 2 and District 4 where voting took place in an orderly manner and no untoward incidents took place in this part of Quezon City.

Namfrel Reports Unofficial Results

HK021018 Hong Kong AFP in English 1010 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, Feb 2 (AFP) -- The first results from Monday's plebiscite on the proposed Philippine constitution, for less than one percent of the total electorate, showed "yes" votes leading by more than 80 percent against "no" votes, the government election watchdog's citizens' arm said.

Partial unofficial results from 26 areas across the country tallied 237,045 "yes" votes against 56,025 "no", a proportion of 80.88 percent to 19.12 percent, the National Citizens Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) said.

About 25 million Filipinos were registered to vote, and turnout was expected to be around 80 percent.

Makati, Other Results

HK021231 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1204 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] From Namfrel [National Citizen's Movement for Free Elections] in La Salle, Greenhills and Taguig, Maharlika Elementary Schools, here are the latest reports: From 6 precincts, out of 1,555 voters, 1,217 cast their votes for yes, and 338 no, which means 78.3 percent trend of turnout.

From Paranaque, [word indistinct] and Santa Rita, where there are 46 precincts with 16,616 voters, 13,823 voted yes, while 2,793 voted no. The trend turnout was 83.2 percent.

From Barangay Malvar, the final results from 17 precincts, yes votes at 4903 and no at 944.

From 36 precincts in [word indistinct], Muntinglupa, with 11,979 voters, yes: 8,822; no: 1,815.

Meanwhile, in Makati [word indistinct], the number of voters is at 60,212; yes: 48,387; no: 11,865; abstentions: 725; default ballots: 213.

From Bayanan, Muntinglupa, from 39 precincts, number of voters: 13,578; yes: 9,921; no: 2,065; trend: 82 percent.

These are our partial reports.

LAUREL CONFIDENT OF CHARTER RATIFICATION

HK021041 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0955 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Marilou Linggad Report]

[Text] Vice President Salvador Laurel cast his vote at Matapas elementary school in Tanawan, Batangas today. He expressed confidence that the yes votes would win by a comfortable margin. According to Laurel, even though the no votes would win in opposition-controlled areas like Cotabato and Lanao, he expressed belief that this would not affect the affirmative vote in the total tally. Laurel said that the ratification of the constitution would lead the way for the holding of national and local elections.

According to the vice president, the yes votes reflect the true sentiments of our people in support of the government in order to attain political and economic stability. Laurel added that even though the constitution being decided in this plebiscite contained some defects, it could be corrected by the congress. What is important now is to achieve stability and the ratification of the constitution would pave the way for stability.

In other developments, Unido [United Nationalist Democratic Organization] Secretary General Rene Espina said that whether the yes or the no vote wins, it is necessary to set aside politics and to adopt a reconciliatory stance.

Meanwhile, KBL spokesman Nicanor Yniguez said that the KBL reserved its opinion on the ongoing plebiscite for tomorrow.

In the meantime, I roved around 40 east village in Quezon City composed of five precincts. Tabulations have been completed and the results are: Yes: 1,462; No: 460.

RAMOS CRITICIZES VOTING RESTRICTIONS ON TROOPS

HK020525 Hong Kong AFP in English 0521 GMT 2 Jan 87

[Text] Manila, Feb 2 (AFP) -- Philippine Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos Monday indirectly criticized President Corazon Aquino for "very unfair" voting restrictions on soldiers serving outside their electoral districts.

Thousands of troops were unable to take part in Monday's constitutional plebiscite due to a Commission on Elections (Comelec) ruling that soldiers can only vote in precincts where they are registered, military officials said.

Gen. Ramos admitted in a live television interview that soldiers had been used as "flying voters" under deposed president Ferdinand Marcos, casting ballots more than once to influence results, but said this was no longer true.

He said he had asked Mrs. Aquino two weeks ago to issue an executive order allowing for an "absentee voting" system under which troops could send their ballots by mail or through their commanders to their precincts.

"Of course maybe by that time it was no longer timely to have such a system devised," he said, calling for "coordination" between Comelec, the government's election watchdog body, and the Office of the President in order to correct the situation by the time local government elections are held in May.

"What really rankles me personally as well as officially, and I hope I am expressing the sentiment of most of us, is that because they say that soldiers might become flying voters," Gen. Ramos said.

"We are here under this new freedom government, and it seems that's how officials still look at us. I think this is very unfair," he said.

AQUINO ADDRESSES PRE-PLEBISCITE RALLY 31 JAN

HK310940 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0835 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Speech of Philippine President Corazon C. Aquino at Miting de Avance [advanced meeting] for ratification of draft constitution held at Luneta -- live]

[Text] Good afternoon to all my beloved countrymen.

In recent days, there have been some elements who wanted to destabilize our government. We knew that there were those who went to Vidllamor Air Base, Sangley and Channel 7 in order to create trouble. When I spoke to Minister Ileto and General Ramos, I told them that now I will no longer allow troublemakers to get off scot-free. [cheers] It is clear that what happened at the Manila Hotel will not be allowed to be repeated.

As we recall, when Ninoy returned here with an appeal for reconciliation, his wish was that we could reconcile all Filipinos. I reach out my hands to those who are willing to reconcile with us. However, it is clear that there are a handful out there who refuse to hold a dialogue with us, and whose only desire is to create trouble for us again. You know I do not like killing, but neither [passage indistinct]

Come 2 February, on that day, I call on each of us to go to the polling centers put down 'yes' [cheers]. Let us help one another because there are those who cannot go to their precincts. Let us help them if we have the means of transportation. Let us take care that no one will create disruptions. We are the majority in this country. Those in the left and the right, they are just a handful. We can easily overcome them. [cheers]

You know there are those who tell me that the difference with Cory Aquino is that she is too nice. It is necessary that she should be tougher and that she get angry more often. I do not believe in this. I will only be angry at those who make trouble for us. You, all my life I shall love you and serve you. [cheers]

I also wish to convey to you this. Many things have taken place in our country. The whole world describes it as a miracle [words indistinct]. Why are we granted miracles by the Lord? Because we pray and because we Filipinos believe in truth, freedom and justice. And if we continue so, I believe this nation [remainder of sentence in English] will become one of the greatest in the world. [cheers, chants of "Cory"]

I will not linger on. [cheers] You all know that I am famous for my short speeches and it is difficult to change now. However, what else can I say to you? The recent troubles. You know, we are fortunate that there are many on our side, like Minister Ileto and General Ramos, who defended us. [cheers] During the last cabinet meeting, I said: Thank God Minister Ileto is our minister of national defense. [cheers]

And you know, Minister Ileto and General Ramos told me that they will strive to clean the armed forces in order to rid the military of undesirables and misguided elements. [cheers]

It is a time that I say good bye to you. I thank you all. I hope that, as long as I live, you can expect me to serve you every single day and that I will do this to the best of my ability. [cheers]

[Unidentified male voice: Long live President Corazon Aquino! Long live the Filipino nation! The cry of the country, yes!]

REBEL TROOPS SURROUNDED IN MANILA SUBURB

BK311012 Hong Kong AFP in English 1009 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] Manila, Jan 31 (AFP) -- Philippine Government forces have surrounded about 50 rebel troops in a luxury residential area on the outskirts of Manila, the Armed Forces Information Office said Saturday.

The Office of Armed Forces spokesman Colonel Honest Isleta said the troops were surrounded in Asialand Estate, a property belonging to the Araneta family, which has ties with ousted President Ferdinand Marcos. The Defense Ministry refused comment.

The report followed persistent rumors since Friday of movements by troops loyal to Mr. Marcos ahead of Monday's plebiscite for a draft new constitution opposed by both the right and left. No other details were immediately available.

The official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) reported meanwhile that government forces had "blunted" early Saturday an attempt by rebel troops loyal to Mr Marcos to create a "major disturbance in Metro Manila."

PNA said that government forces had raided a "rebel training camp" in Montalban, in the outskirts of Manila, and captured five rebel soldiers and some firearms.

PNA said that most of the 200 armed men who had gathered on a property in Montalban owned by Gregg Araneta, Mr Marcos's son-in-law, managed to flee.

It was not immediately clear if the rebels holed up in Asialand Estate were connected with the group mentioned in the PNA report.

Further on Rebels

BK311542 Hong Kong AFP in English 1534 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Manila, Jan 31 (AFP) -- Hundreds of government troops were carrying out operations Saturday to mop up rebel soldiers holding out in the outskirts of Manila since an abortive rebellion Tuesday, military spokesmen said.

One military spokesman said Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos had ordered government troops Friday "to neutralize an undetermined number of reportedly armed rebel soldiers" in Novaliches District northwest of here.

Major Roberto Ver, the operations chief of some 1,000 government troops conducting a pursuit operation in Novaliches District, told reporters who visited the area late Saturday that his troops were chasing some 200 men.

He declined to explicitly identify the men he was pursuing, but indicated to reporters that they were troops loyal to former President Ferdinand Marcos. [passage omitted]

Military sources here said Saturday that eight truckloads of rebel troops were being pursued in Novaliches District, Quezon City in metropolitan Manila, and in other areas north of the capital. The military sources, who requested anonymity, also said that five rebel soldiers had been captured Saturday.

The reports of fresh confrontations between government and rebel forces came as Mrs. Aquino held a rally at a park here to wind up her campaign for ratification of a new constitution in a plebiscite Monday. [passage omitted]

Military camps here remained on full alert Saturday and military spokesmen said that civilians had been asked to leave Camp Crame, headquarters of the Philippine Constabulary, without explanation.

A spokesman at the Camp Aguinaldo army headquarters here said the camp commander had ordered a four-hour night-time curfew for security reasons.

Pursuit Continues

HK010810 Hong Kong AFP in English 0722 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, Feb 1 (AFP) -- Philippine infantry Sunday combed the Sierra Madre mountains north of here, probing deep into the heavily wooded area in pursuit of an estimated 200 rebel troops, a military spokesman said.

But government forces have apparently not yet established contact with the rebels, Captain Anselmo Cabingan of the armed forces headquarters here said. "The soldiers are still continuing to pursue the rebels," he said.

Government forces Saturday overran a rebel camp, captured five soldiers and seized an arms cache near Montalban, a hill town about 35 kilometers (20 miles) from here, in the foothills of the Sierra Madre.

The fleeing rebels are believed to be the last hold-outs from a short-lived mutiny Tuesday by several hundred troops, some of whom occupied a television station for three days after failing to seize military targets.

Capt. Cabingan could not say whether the fleeing troops were, as widely reported, backers of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos, who was believed to have planned to return here from his Hawaiian exile during the uprising.

Military sources said the rebel camp was on land owned by Gregorio Araneta, a son-in-law of Mr Marcos who fled with the former President's family to Hawaii and was last reported based somewhere in the United States.

The armed forces spokesman said the General Headquarters Brigade, an infantry unit, was still under orders issued Friday by Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos to "neutralize" the rebels, military jargon for capturing or killing them.

"The commander will have discretion as to what to do ... depending on the situation," Capt. Cabingan said.

Following standard policy on military operations, he refused to give the exact number of government troops involved. A regular brigade has three battalions, each with at least 500 men.

He said the rebels appeared to have come from various branches of the armed forces.

Search Called Off

HK020335 Hong Kong AFP in English 0330 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, Feb 2 (AFP) -- Philippine infantry troops Monday called off a search for an alleged group of rebel soldiers in mountains north of here after the renegades "seemed to vanish," an armed forces spokesman said.

No details were immediately disclosed by spokesman Colonel Honesto Isleta, who announced that Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos was to appear at a news conference later in the day.

The armed forces Sunday said up to three battalions of infantry troops were combing the Sierra Madre Mountains north of here in search of an estimated 200 rebel troops believed to be holdouts from Tuesday's military rebellion.

POLICE SEIZE CACHE OF EXPLOSIVES IN MANILA

HK020030 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Police operatives yesterday [1 February] intercepted a cache of explosives, which they said were intended for use in blasting vital government installations in Metro Manila to disrupt today's plebiscite. Western police district anti-narcotics division chief, Captain (Restituto Catlayan), said two explosive carriers said to be Marcos loyalists were arrested by the operatives as they were about to board a taxicab in Santa Cruz, Manila. (Catlayan) said his operatives have launched a massive manhunt for the other companions of the two, who were believed to have more explosives in their possession.

Police said (Luisto Paunan) and (Bonifacion Pique), both natives of Ilocos, were caught while about to board a taxicab at the vicinity of (Telex Verbas) and (P. Guevara) streets in Santa Cruz. Seized from them were 120 sticks of dyanamite, 400 pieces [as heard] of blasting caps, and 30 meters of detonating fuse, valued at 50,000 pesos.

3 BOMBS EXPLODE IN MANILA, NO INJURIES REPORTED

BK011720 Hong Kong AFP in English 1704 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, Feb 1 (AFP) -- Grenade and dynamite blasts rocked a radio station, a church and a supermarket in Manila within minutes of each other late Sunday, police said. There were no immediate reports of injuries in the explosions, which hit the popular radio station DZRH in the Makati financial district, and the Roman Catholic Church of San Roque and the Clark supermarket in the Manila suburb of Mandaluyong.

The explosions occurred within minutes of each other shortly before midnight (1600 GMT), Makati and Mandaluyong police told AGENCIE FRANCE-PRESS.

The blasts came hours after Manila police said they had seized 120 sticks of dynamite which they believed were to be used to attack government facilities in a bid to disrupt voting Monday on a new constitution that would confirm President Corazon Aquino in power until 1992. They said they had arrested two suspects but were searching for others who were believed to have more explosives.

A DZRH spokesman said the blast at the radio station had apparently been caused by a grenade. It had damaged the glass facade of the building but had not affected broadcasting equipment.

None of the bomb attacks was immediately claimed, but police said the two people arrested with the seized explosives were suspected supporters of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

Makati police said a high explosive was set off by unidentified men in a car on a vacant lot next to the seven-storey office building housing DZRH.

"They knew what they were doing," said a police officer after seeing an eight-inch (20 centimetres) diameter hole in the concrete pavement left by the blast.

Val Mendoza, a news editor at the station, said the blast occurred at about 11:10 p.m. (1510 GMT)

A grenade also exploded minutes later outside the San Roque church and a dynamite blast hit a nearby supermarket, Mandaluyong police said.

Two men in a white car were behind both explosions, they added. The two buildings are within walking distance of each other.

DZEC RADIO BROADCASTS TAPED MARCOS MESSAGE

BK311747 Hong Kong AFP in English 1727 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Manila, Jan 31 (AFP) -- Former President Ferdinand Marcos called on the Philippine Armed Forces to unite and "uphold the republic and the constitution" in a taped message broadcast by local radio Saturday.

"You in the military have devoted your lives and sworn that unto death you will uphold the republic and the constitution," Mr Marcos said in a message aired five days after a rebellion by pro-Marcos soldiers was put down by troops loyal to President Corazon Aquino.

"And because of this I call on you (the armed forces) specially," he added in the message aired by pro-Marcos DZEC radio late Saturday.

"And I am inviting not only those who are in uniform, but all of our fellow Filipinos who have not bent since then, who have not let go of their trust in our republic and our flag," Mr Marcos said. [passage omitted]

In this message, Mr Marcos said, "I believe that the dream of peace intended for the Filipino people is around the corner."

"I have complete faith that the Filipino people will be united and that the military will be as one in fighting for these victims and (unintelligible) ... our people."

"Once again, I thank you and I pray to God that victory will be in your hands," he concluded.

U.S. 'MERCENARIES' INVOLVED IN COUP PLOT

HK310555 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 31 Jan 87 pp 1, 3

[By staff member Sheila Coronel]

[Text] Anti-communist American mercenaries conspired with supporters of former President Marcos, aides of ousted Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and opposition politicians to prevent the holding of the plebiscite on Monday and set the stage for a takeover of the Aquino Government.

While the conspiracy appears to have been thwarted, 'CHRONICLE' sources who refused to be identified said that preparations for another strike are being made and that Marcos is making another attempt to return to the Philippines.

Though the conspirators are being propelled by different and sometimes antagonistic interests, they have to work together in the meantime. Anti-communism and the intention to overthrow the government holds them together, the source said.

The sources believe that a retired U.S. Army general may have been involved in the initial stages of the conspiracy. This man now heads an international anti-communist group and is said to have had a vital role in assisting and advising anti-communist Contra movement against the Nicaraguan Government.

The ex-CIA official has been in and out of the country in the past few months and his men have met with loyalist leaders several times, sources said. He runs a Makati-based company supposedly set up to look for the hidden treasure.

The linkage to U.S. covert operatives is bolstered by the fact that the plane which was supposed to have brought Marcos to the Philippines was chartered from an airline that also delivers arms to Contra rebels in Nicaragua.

Marcos too, when he was president, was believed to have been involved in the Iran arms deal by forging end-user certificates for secret arms deliveries to Iran. Proceeds of those arms sales were channeled to Nicaraguan rebels.

Philippine press attache in Hawaii Horacio Paredes also said that Marcos may have interpreted the permission given the plane to fly from Miami, where the airline company was based, to Honolulu, as an endorsement of his return by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Marcos reportedly tried to charter a plane twice before but U.S. authorities told airline companies not to allow him to do so.

Paredes said that certain sections of the U.S. intelligence community were not too happy with certain provisions in the Constitution, including the ban on nuclear weapons in U.S. bases.

Marcos loyalists have been making feverish preparations for the strongman's return for months, the sources said. Marcos was supposed to have arrived in the Philippines by last Thursday at the latest but the sources said that he was still trying to return.

Though its timetable has been set back, sources said that the plot was not yet completely neutralized as the whereabouts and actions of the ringleaders of the conspiracy like retired Gen. Antonio Zumel and Col. Rolando Abadilla remain unknown.

Enrile aides, meanwhile, have taken advantage of loyalists preparations and may have even tacitly encouraged them, hoping that the destabilization and the weakening of the military and government would make it easier for them to grab power. "Then, they would kick out the loyalists and kill the communists," one source said.

Opposition politicians, who recently coalesced under an umbrella organization, are part of the plot, though many of them may not be aware of the breadth and depth of the conspiracy. Their role, the sources said, was to undermine the Aquino government politically.

The plot has four phases, according to 'CHRONICLE' sources, and its planning is so compartmentalized that participants were told only about portions in which they were involved. The first phase, which took place in the early morning hours of Jan 27, was the destruction of communications and military installation through lightning raids.

In the second phase, strike forces were to go after military commanders who would not be convinced to join or acquiesce to the plot.

The third phase was the "people power" phase where civilian supporters of the conspiracy were to converge in support of the plotters. A song played over a loyalist radio station was to be the signal for civilian loyalists to get together.

If the takeover has still not consummated by this stage, the fourth and final phase was to be "all-out war" which was to be marked by a great deal of bloodshed, somewhat akin to the Indonesian experience where all dissenters would be massacred.

The Armed Forces had neutralized the first phase of the plot. Rebel troops held out at GMA-7, instead, as a distraction so that the other conspirators could set the ground for Marcos' return. The rebels prolonged their occupation of the TV station, hoping that Marcos could use it for his first broadcast upon his return, the sources said.

When Marcos' comeback bid was aborted, however, the sources said officers sympathetic to the rebel holdouts plotted to rescue them from the station. These officers took advantage of a fellowship meeting of Philippine Military Academy alumni to whip up sympathy for the dissident troops.

"They are masters of psychology and they played on the emotions of their classmates," one source said. Thus, some 100 PMA officers trouped to see Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos to appeal that violence should not be used against the holdouts. Ramos, instead, lectured to the officers and exposed to them the nature and extent of the plot.

A great deal of deception and manipulation was used by the conspirators, the sources said. Though some of the soldiers who joined the plot were paid between P5,000 to P10,000 each, others were deceived into taking part in the raids by officers who told them that they were launching an anti-communist operation in support of Ramos.

Sources said that days before the takeover attempt, Enrile aides visited the PMA, and several military camps, telling soldiers that the communists were about to take over and that Ramos needed their support. They would respond when Ramos called, the soldiers were told.

The conspirators also played on the naivete and knee-jerk response of soldiers to anti-communism. The sources said the officers who led them were loyal to military officials associated with the previous regime and who felt left out by the current military leadership. Some of these officers have a string of extortion and human rights cases but given the personalistic and leader-orientation of soldiers, they were followed by their men, the sources added.

Many of the soldiers who took part in the plot also came from the Philippine Constabulary, which, during Marcos' time, was the most politicized service of the Armed Forces, the sources said.

Though the plotters could make another attempt, their chances of success will be greatly diminished once the constitution is ratified, the sources said.

RAMOS DENIES NDF CHARGE ON LINKS TO COUP PLOT

HK010741 Hong Kong AFP in English 0655 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, Feb 1 (AFP) -- General Fidel Ramos, the Philippine armed forces chief of staff, Sunday rejected leftist claims that he was behind this week's short-lived military rebellion and the collapse of peace talks with communist insurgents.

Gen. Ramos, in a written statement, said claims in an interview with unnamed leaders of the communist-led National Democratic Front (NDF) "only serve to magnify their (the communists') lack of credibility in the eyes of our people."

The SUNDAY TIMES newspaper quoted NDF leaders as saying that Tuesday's rebellion was part of a plot by the U.S. State Department and Central Intelligence Agency to install him as head of a civilian-military junta.

Gen. Ramos denied "knowledge, much less involvement, in any coup plot" being engineered by the U.S. Government, and vowed he would crush any such plan. The general, a graduate of the United States' West Point Military Academy, said the armed forces leadership "has no ambition of assuming a role larger than what the constitution and existing law have mandated."

The NDF, which Friday announced its withdrawal from negotiations with the government on a political settlement to the communist insurgency, also blamed him for the collapse of the peace talks, saying the government could no longer control the military.

In formally announcing its withdrawal from the negotiations, the NDF said hopes for peace had ended with the killing of at least 15 leftist marchers by security forces near the presidential palace the week before.

MENDIOLA VICTIMS BURIED; KMP LISTS DEMANDS

HK310428 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT
31 Jan 87

[Text] Cause-oriented activists yesterday laid to rest two of the victims at the shooting at the Mendiola rally last Thursday. Before the burial, caskets bearing the remains of Angelita Gutierrez and Rogrigo Crampa were carried in a funeral march from Caloocan to North Cemetery. The procession was marked by chanting of revolutionary songs, (?fireworks) and red flags borne by members of Bayan [Bagong Alyansang Makabayan -- New Nationalist Alliance], KMU [Kilusang Mayo Uno -- 1 May Movement] and KMP [Kilusang Mangbubukid ng Pilipinas -- Farmers' Movement of the Philippines]. The mourners raised clinched fists and sang the Internationale as Gutierrez and Crampa were lowered to the ground in coffins draped with communist hammer and sickle flag.

KMP Chairman Jaime Tadeo, who led both Thursday's rally and yesterday's funeral march, told reporters he will refuse to participate in the government's investigation of the killings unless certain demands are met.

[Begin Tadeo recording in Tagalog] Technical arrests, prosecutions, punishments of all military who took part in the Mendiola incident on 22 January. Immediate relief of Minister Ileto, General Ramos, General Ramon Montano, and General Alfredo Lim, and the resignation of Minister Heherson Alvarez. These are our two demands. [end recording]

OFFICIAL SAYS JAPANESE BUSINESSMAN STILL ALIVE

OW010416 Tokyo KYODO In English 0403 GMT 1 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, Feb. 1 KYODO -- Kidnapped Japanese businessman Nobuyuki Wakaoji was alive at least up to last Wednesday, Agrarian Reform Minister Heherson Alvarez said Sunday. He said Philippine authorities have information that Wakaoji, 53-year-old chief of the Manila office of the major Japanese trading company Mitsui and Co., had been held captive in a barrio (village) in Batangas Province, south of Manila. Alvarez said he is confident that Wakaoji is still alive.

The cabinet minister, speaking to Japanese correspondents at the gate of Malacanang presidential palace, said the chief of a private army is the leader of Wakaoji's kidnappers. Alvarez said the Philippine authorities are now negotiating with representatives of the kidnappers to win Wakaoji's freedom, and added there may be moves toward a settlement of the case sooner than expected. He said there are rumors that Wakaoji has been rescued and brought back to Manila. This has not been confirmed.

Wakaoji was kidnapped at gunpoint November 15 while returning home from a golf club south of Manila. The kidnappers sent photos of Wakaoji to KYODO NEWS SERVICE in which he held a local newspaper published in January.

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